Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 197 | THURSDAY OCTOBER 3, 2013 | www.saipantribune.com | 75¢

'No evidence that Quichocho committed violations' PAGE 3
Free customer service, computer training for retirees. PAGE 7

Tinian on 'partial shutdown'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Delegation poised to pass $3.841M local budget today

Today marks the third day of a partial government shutdown on Tinian, where Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz ordered over a dozen municipal employees to stop working until Tinian lawmakers pass a proposed $3.841-million municipal budget for fiscal year 2014 that began Oct. 1.

Dela Cruz

"I had to let go of the mayor's staff because the delegation failed to pass a local budget on time. There are exemptions from this partial shutdown," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), in a separate interview yesterday, said the Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation is poised to pass in this morning's session the proposed budget for fiscal year 2014.

"The delegation was caught up in addressing the CNMI government budget and the Retirement Fund settlement agreement and time just caught up with us. We have been working on the local budget for weeks now, and we expect it to pass [today]," he said.

The four-member Tinian delegation, chaired by Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tini-

See TINIAN on Page 4

IF FED SHUTDOWN DRAGS ON

Impacts on CNMI to worsen

» American Memorial Park, immigration court closed
» CHC: WIC benefits 'prioritized' if shutdown goes beyond Oct.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

United States and military service flags had to be taken down along with the closure of the rest of the American Memorial Park grounds and facilities in Garapan yesterday, while the CNMI braces for worse impacts that could cut into health and welfare programs if the first U.S. gov-

See IMPACTS on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
One of the signs posted yesterday on the typhoon shutters at the Visitors Center at American Memorial Park in Garapan, one of the 401 national parks forced to close as a result of the federal government shutdown.

RELATED NEWS
➤ NMC, PSS mostly unaffected by federal govt shutdown. PAGE 3

Admin: Nov. release for rest of DB contributions

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Senate OKs 'substitute' resolution on disbursement

Retirement Fund members who decided to end their defined benefit plan membership should expect the release of their remaining employee contributions in early November, the Inos administration said yesterday.

But the release date could still be delayed depending on the Legislature's action, especially with the Senate's passage yesterday afternoon of a "substitute" version of a House joint resolution.

House Joint Resolution 18-10, House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1 still has to go back to the House for approval before the measure is considered as the Legislature's formal acknowledgement and approval of the final disbursement of the DB employee contributions.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment yesterday, said if the Legislature approves the settlement agreement on or before Nov. 1, the Fund should begin distributing checks starting the first week of November.

"If the Legislature does not approve

See ADMIN on Page 4

RELATED NEWS
➤ Settlement fund trustee vows to be accessible to retirees. PAGE 5

GOT A NEWS TIP?
TEL: 235-6397
235-2440
FAX: 235-3740
EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

OPINION METER
This week's poll:
Many say the CNMI economy is now improving. Do you feel it?
Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

Republicans and Democrats trade blame on the government's shutdown. ➤ PAGE 13

WORLD

Nearly 1,000 Iraqi lives were lost to violence in September. ➤ PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE

Sandra Bullock says "Gravity" is "the best life decision I think I ever made." ➤ PAGE 20

IT&E
Life in Motion
Samsung GALAXY S4 zoom
The only smart phone with 10x zoom
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
Samsung Galaxy S4 Zoom
$299*
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

Local

October is also Information Literacy Month

Gov. Eloy S. Inos on Monday declared October as Information Literacy Month in the presence of librarians and archivists from the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, NMC Library, and libraries of the Public School System.

According to the proclamation signed at the Governor's Office conference room, information literacy is the ability to recognize when information is needed and having the ability to locate, evaluate, and effectively use the needed information.

The proclamation recognizes the roles that libraries—public, academic, school, and specialized— serve, the most important of which is providing information literacy instruction.

JKPL executive director John Oliver Gonzales said he is happy with the renewed partnerships among the JKPL, NMC, Northern Marianas Humanities Council, and PSS "in continuing the effort to provide information literacy in all formats and in all media anytime in line or online."

"It's all about partnerships and leveraging value to stakeholders in terms of information literacy," he added.

NMC Library's Chris Todd, who is also president of the CNMI Association of Archives, Libraries, and Museums, said the college is currently busy converting its collection of old newspapers and important Trust Territory documents into digital form.

MARK RABAGO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, center, pose with librarians and archivists from the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, NMC Library, and libraries of the Public School System during a proclamation signing declaring October as Information Literacy Month on Monday at the Governor's Office.

He, however, emphasized the important of putting into microfilm certain archival material to preserve it for posterity.

Kagman High School librarian Marie Ornes said they are in the process of conducting a baseline survey among students on how they handle information.

"It will assess how students access and use information aside from just using Google. And if they Google, do they Google well and whether they can utilize the information and incorporate it with the projects they are doing," she said.

Marianas High School, for its part, just conducted its STAR reading and math assessment where students are tested in math and reading.

Tanapag Elementary School is also in midst of an accelerated reading assessment. The school is also circulating books to students according to their reading levels.

Gonzales, meanwhile, said the JKPL's Book Mobile Library Outreach continues to serve community youth centers and students and families without transportation.

"We try our best to bring book titles to the villages. That's what we try to do to make ends meet. We are also set to place our outreach staff in four designated public libraries pursuant to the recommendations of PSS, which need reinforcement and information literacy."

Aside from this, JKPL and the two other state libraries on Tinian and Rota will, if size permits, add more workstations to accommodate PSS online students. He said the CNMI's three state libraries would also be making available e-books to library cardholders.

Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi also had good news for teenagers who have overdue books at JKPL. In celebration of Teen Week on Oct. 15-19, JKPL will extend an overdue books amnesty for teenagers. ***(Mark Rabago)***

IP&E
Fueling Excellence
GET TRIPLE POINTS NOW
WITH LUCKY 7!
Earn Lucky 7 Triple Points with every gallon of gas purchased with your Lucky 7 Card.
EARN REWARDS THREE TIMES AS FAST.
REDEEM YOUR LUCKY 7 POINTS FOR YOUR CHOICE OF:
$7 in Fuel;
$7 in Shop Purchases;
$10 IT&E Prepaid Wireless Card; or
500 United MileagePlus® Award Miles
Terms & conditions apply. See store for details.
MileagePlus
UNITED
GOLD
LUCKY 7
IT&E
Life in Motion
Shell Licensee
Shell trademarks used under license by IP&E.
HURRY IN TO ANY SHELL STATION TODAY FOR THIS LIMITED TIME OFFER!

Guam lawyer: No evidence that Quichocho committed violations

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An expert witness for attorney Ramon K. Quichocho, who is being sued for alleged racketeering, concludes it is unlikely that there was a violation of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct as the record does not support a finding that Quichocho had sex with his then client, who is a complainant in the lawsuit.

Guam attorney Jacqueline Taitano Terlaje stated in her report that there is a lack of clear and convincing evidence to support Jung Ja Kim's allegations of rape and consensual sex with Quichocho and his wife, Frances.

Terlaje is currently a member and chairperson of the ad hoc disciplinary committee for the Supreme Court of Guam. She was retained by Quichocho to provide a rebuttal opinion.

In her report filed yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Terlaje said she cannot conclude that Quichocho engaged in any unethical conduct based on the facts that are on the record.

Terlaje said that attorney Benjamin M. Abrams' expert witness report was a limited review of the record, and did not include the volumes of depositions and formal responses provided by Quichocho in the disciplinary proceeding, "all which when taken together as a whole, provide a more objective review of the evidence available."

Abrams is an assistant attorney general at the Guam Office of the Attorney General. Kim retained him to give an expert opinion in connection with her racketeering lawsuit against Quichocho.

Abrams had concluded that Quichocho not only committed ethical transgressions but likely even criminal acts. He stated that the facts in this case strongly suggest that Quichocho took unfair and unethical advantage of Kim by sexually victimizing her while she was on depression medication.

But in her rebuttal report, Terlaje said that upon a review of the record and applying the standards imposed by the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, it is her opinion that the record does not support a finding of any ethical violation.

"While it is my opinion that [Quichocho] could have exercised better judgments in details, such as confirming in writing, whether formal or informal his hourly fee, avoiding the sharing of office space with non-lawyers, limiting access to email accounts, under the standard imposed by the Commonwealth Supreme Court Disciplinary Rules and Procedures, it is my opinion that this matter lacks clear and convincing evidence of a violation of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct," Terlaje said.

On the issue of prohibited sexual relationship, Terlaje said that Kim asserted in her deposition that she had consensual sex with Quichocho on more than one occasion and had a three-way with Quichocho and his wife, Frances, on Jan. 1, 2009. In a separate deposition, Kim asserted that Quichocho raped her on at least two occasions in November and December 2008, Terlaje said.

Terlaje said Quichocho denies all allegations of sexual misconduct and that Frances asserts that she was the author

See GUAM on Next Page

NMC, PSS mostly unaffected by federal govt's shutdown

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The federal programs of the Northern Marianas College and the Public School System remain relatively unscathed even as the federal shutdown of the U.S. government entered its second day today.

NMC dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan explained that, although there may be delays in processing and administering grants, most of the federal student aid programs administered by the college will, in the short term, remain mostly unaffected.

» PSS benefits from forward funding

"However, if the shutdown is prolonged to any extended period of time, there may be more significant consequences," added Pangelinan.

"Nonetheless, we are closely monitoring all official communication from the U.S. Department of Education, other federal agencies, and Congressman Kilili's [Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan] office to ensure that we respond appropriately," he added.

The U.S. Department of Education provides federal financial aid to NMC through Title IV funds, comprising five programs: Pell grant, TEACH grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal College Work Study, and Academic Competitiveness Grant.

Since 2001, a total of 2,283 students in the bachelor of science in Education degree program have benefited from these funds.

Forward funding saves the day

Meanwhile, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan assured public school students and teachers that PSS is not affected by the federal government shutdown.

"The Public School System is not affected by the federal shutdown and that is because all of our federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education are forward funding, meaning that our funds have been approved prior to the budget impasse. So we are OK," she said.

Last fiscal year, PSS received $28.739 million in federal awards. The largest chunk was for the breakfast and lunch program for students. The total allocation for this program in fiscal year 2013 was $10.233 million.

The consolidated grant totaling $8.442 million is the next highest federal award, followed by $4.831 million for food and nutrition services and $1.839 million to operate the PSS Head Start program. For special education part C, PSS was funded $959,094 while part B allocation this fiscal year reached $454,283.

SARS
SUCCESS AUTO REPAIR SHOP
M & R CONTRACTOR/CONSTRUCTION
HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTAL

EQUIPMENT FOR RENTAL
- BOOMTRUCK 3 TONS
- DUMPTRUCK 10/15 CY
- HYDRAULIC MOWER
- GRADER
- PAYLOADER
- BACKHOE
- SWEEPER
- TRACTOR MOWER
- COMPACTOR 2 TONS
- 30FT. BUCKET TRUCK

We also do land clearing and cleaning

For Inquiry please call Marj/Henry Miao
Tel. Nos. 322-1558/322-1988/483-1548
Located at Lower Base

Samsung GALAXY S4 zoom
The only smart phone with 10x zoom

Quick Interface
Never miss a thing: Talk, shoot, share at the same time

A spin of the zoom ring turns your smartphone into a precision camera

Better low-light performance and motion capture
16M BSI CMOS Sensor

$299*

facebook.com/ITE.CNMI @670and670

IT&E
Life in Motion

join the network that gives you
TRULY UNLIMITED DATA
SAIPAN: 682-4ITE (4483) • TINIAN: 433-0210
ROTA: 532-3599 • GUAM: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • WWW.ITE.NET
*Some conditions apply • must sign up for 2-yr contract on Unlimited Android Plan

New Store Hours • Customer Service Center (Chalan Laulau) Monday to Friday • 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Car for sale stolen in Garapan

» Ford Focus is victim's 2nd vehicle stolen since 2007

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A four-door sedan parked for sale in front of the Kristo Rai Church in Garapan was stolen by an unidentified person or persons between Monday night and Tuesday morning.

Romel Codog, 42, a cook at Victoria Hotel, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that his car was a white 2005 Ford Focus with license plate ADT-241.

Codog said he immediately reported the matter to the Department of Public Safety and requested help from security officers and federal agents assigned at Horiguchi Building.

The cook said he left the car in the parking lot of Kristo Rai Church Monday between 7pm to 8pm and when he returned at 3:20pm the following day, the vehicle was already gone. He suspected that the car was towed as he still has the keys.

"Whoever stole my car, please return it to me. And if someone has information as to who stole it, please call the police," said Codog. He has been trying to sell the car for $6,500 since January.

It was not the first time for Codog to fall victim to car thieves on Saipan.

In 2007, his blue 1988 Toyota Hilux pickup truck was stolen while it was parked at his apartment in front of Sasco Auto Shop on Middle Road, Garapan. He reported the matter to the police, but it was never recovered.

ADMIN

From Page 1

the agreement by that time, the NMIRF will be required to withhold disbursements of employee contributions until such time that the Legislature approves the settlement agreement," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

At yesterday's session, Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan) offered a Senate substitute version of the House joint resolution.

Yumul is one of the 16 who opted out of the Fund settlement class.

The Senate-adopted version adds at least seven new paragraphs and revises others.

Some of the added or revised "whereas" and "resolved" clauses voice out senators' concerns about the final settlement agreement itself that the court approved on Monday.

For example, one of the new "whereas" clauses describes Section 34.0 of the settlement deal as "disturbing and extortive" as it mandates legislative action approving the CNMI's minimum annual payment obligation under the agreement, "otherwise no further disbursements shall be paid out to those members of the CNMI Fund who timely submitted elections to terminate their membership in the defined benefit plan."

The Fund itself expects to disburse the remainder of DB contributions—about $42 million—by early November. But again, the timeline could still change, depending on whether the House accepts or rejects the Senate substitute version. If the House rejects the Senate version, they have to come up with a compromise version.

Another new "whereas" clause in the Senate version states partly that the "Waiver and Release of Claims" under Section 12.0 of the settlement deal "is contrary to Public Law 17-82 and that the CNMI Fund has subjectively and selectively applied Public Law 17-82 against the constitutional and statutory rights of those members who elected to terminate their membership and withdraw their contributions."

Meanwhile, one of the new "be it further resolved" clauses states that the joint resolution as expressed shall not be binding beyond the constitutional term of the 18th CNMI Legislature.

Another new clause says the Legislature preserves its sovereign rights under the Constitution and CNMI and U.S. laws in approving the settlement agreement "in order to challenge the said agreement in a court of law declaring any or parts of the agreement invalid…"

By a unanimous vote, the Senate adopted the substitute resolution at 4:18pm.

The vote came only after senators took turns asking assistant attorneys general Teresita Sablan and Reena Patel—from 2:24pm to 3:49pm—about the settlement agreement.

Demapan, meanwhile, said pursuant to the settlement agreement in the *Betty Johnson v. CNMI Government*, disbursements of employee contributions under PLs 17-82 and 18-2 can be made after:

(1) the CNMI District Court gives final approval of the settlement agreement;

(2) the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund finishes calculating contributions made in fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and;

(3) the CNMI Legislature takes legislative action approving the settlement agreement.

Demapan said the first requirement was satisfied when the District Court gave final approval of the settlement on Sept. 30.

According to trustee *ad litem* Joseph Razzano, the calculations for employee contributions made in fiscal year 2012 will be completed by Oct. 18 and the calculations for fiscal 2013 will be completed by Nov. 1.

"As for legislative approval, the House adopted a resolution approving the settlement agreement on Sept. 24, 2013. The Senate [on Wednesday] adopted a substitute version that now goes back to the House," Demapan said.

IMPACTS

From Page 1

ernment shutdown in 17 years drags on.

The U.S. immigration court on Saipan has also been closed indefinitely.

Except for Call-A-Ride drivers, employees at the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority were relieved of duty yesterday until issues about federal grants are sorted out.

Esther Muña, acting Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO, said the Women, Infants and Children or WIC Program has enough funding for now but if the shutdown goes beyond October, recipients could see "prioritization" of benefits.

"The WIC program is funding the purchase of food items for women, infants and children but should this shutdown drag on longer than a month, we need to start prioritizing," Muña told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Muña reminded program areas to "be careful" about spending, and to hold off on some purchases that are not critical—at least until the federal shutdown is lifted.

"For us as a corporation, we are still worried how long it's going to last," she said.

Medicare is not affected at this time, the acting CEO said.

"The funding for the grants is not affected… But the project officers [in the U.S.] will not be working, we won't be able to communicate with them… If you need to put in a grant application, the computer system would accept it. But there is no administrative support because they are furloughed," Muña added.

Separately, the WIC Program said yesterday that normal administrative and clinical operations will continue in October 2013.

"Despite the shutdown of most offices and services of the U.S. federal government pending the passage of a fiscal year 2014 U.S. appropriations bill, the WIC Program has identified available funding resources to sustain operations through the end of October 2013. The CHCC will be providing updates in the next week on the operations status of our local WIC Program and other federally funded programs that may be impacted should the shutdown of the federal government remain past October," it said.

Park closure

The American Memorial Park in Garapan, Saipan was one of the 401 national parks forced to close as a result of the federal government shutdown. It will remain closed until the government reopens.

All visitor facilities at the American Memorial Park, including the Visitor Center, park restrooms, tennis courts, and unpaved park roads are closed.

All park programs, special events, and special use permits have also been canceled.

"The shutdown will prevent hundreds of park visitors from enjoying our historic sites and memorials," said acting National Park Service acting superintendent Ron Borne in a statement yesterday.

Jason Beatty, chief ranger at the American Memorial Park in Garapan, said yesterday he didn't receive the directive to implement the shutdown until 11:55pm Wednesday.

"We can't have maintenance staff here to do the routine picking up of trash, mowing the lawn or fix the light if it's down. Maintenance operations, which are a big role in this park, are affected. It also prevents us from allowing people to come to the park," Beatty told *Saipan Tribune*.

Nine of the park's 11 employees are on furlough because of the shutdown. The two, including Beatty, are exempted because they are law enforcement personnel.

Three Pacific Historic Park association employees are also on furlough.

Exemptions

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), in a statement yesterday, said "fortunately, there are many important government services that are exempt," including aviation, border control, Social Security, Medicare payments, mail service and continued payment to soldiers.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services separately notified the public yesterday that its offices nationwide are open.

But Sablan said there are federal employees in the CNMI who, along with 800,000 others nationwide, "are being furloughed—laid off until the shutdown ends."

"Veterans, seniors, small business owners, visitors to our national parks will all feel the impact. Maybe not so much on day one, but as each day goes by we will all come to realize how much we rely on our federal government," the delegate said.

He said anyone with retirement savings should also pay attention.

"A prolonged shutdown—or worse, another showdown over the nation's debt limit in two weeks—could take a toll on family nest eggs. If America's credit rating goes down, as it did the last time we had this fight, borrowing costs will rise, forcing tax increases or more reductions in the services we all count on," he said.

Governor's briefing

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a statement after a briefing with some department and agency heads yesterday afternoon, cautioned CNMI employees to remain vigilant in the event the federal government shutdown is prolonged for an extended period of time.

The administration said CNMI federal grant programs remain in operation.

Unlike federal government employees throughout the nation, CNMI government employees who are considered "federally-funded" draw their salaries from federal grants awarded to the Commonwealth.

This was the center of discussion in a briefing that Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider held with department and agency heads who manage federal grant programs within the local government.

The administration said that, except for COTA, the agencies reported that they have either received their fiscal year 2014 grant awards, are the recipients of a multi-year grant award that covers the new fiscal year, or have sufficient carry-over funds that their agency is allowed to use in the current fiscal year.

"In the case of COTA, their office has yet to receive the official grant award, but have already been notified that the grant will be forthcoming. In light of this, Vince Merfalen, acting special assistant for public transportation, [on Wednesday] relieved COTA employees, with the exception of the Call-a-Ride drivers, from duty until this issue is sorted out," the administration said.

Merfalen is in the process of reviewing COTA finances to determine whether there are sufficient carry-over funds that will allow the staff to return to work and resume normal operations.

TINIAN

From Page 1

an), convenes at 9:30am today.

If and when the Tinian municipal budget passes the delegation today, it still has to undergo review by the administration before Gov. Eloy S. Inos could sign it into local law.

This is already proving to be a worse partial shutdown on Tinian compared to last year, when municipal employees were ordered not to work for one day.

The municipal budget is from projected revenues from Tinian's casino industry, which is essentially revenue from the lone operator, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The 2014 proposed budget of $3.841 million is a bit higher than the $3.5-million local Tinian budget law in 2013.

Most government personnel on Tinian are funded by CNMI general fund.

Among those exempted from this year's partial Tinian shutdown are personnel from the Municipal Treasury and the Tinian Gaming Control Commission, Dela Cruz said.

"That's why the number of affected personnel is down to only about 15. In my view, to treat everyone fairly, Casino Commission personnel that are not casino inspectors or the executive director should not be exempted from the shutdown," he added.

Most of the affected employees are the least-paid municipal personnel on Tinian, receiving only $16,000 or a little more a year, municipal data shows.

"These people are already struggling. I hope that the local budget will be passed immediately so they could go back to work. They have families to feed and bills to pay too, just like the rest of government employees," the mayor added.

This comes at a time when the U.S. government has also been shut down for the first time in 17 years over a lack of a new spending measure to keep federal government offices open on Oct. 1 and onwards.

GUAM

From Page 3

behind the emails purporting to be Quichocho in an attempt to catch her husband in an affair with Kim.

Terlaje said the deposition testimonies of Kim, as it relates to the alleged sexual misconduct by Quichocho, shows that this is a circumstance of "he said, she said."

However, Terlaje said, the lack of immediate report or seeking medical attention, the reports of repeated sex, the report of breakfast with others after being allegedly raped, the inability to know whether Quichocho is circumcised or not, and her admission of lack of memory on whether she did or did not have sex with Quichocho on particular occasions "weighed in respondent's favor."

On the email issue, Terlaje said it is highly probable that the statement of Frances is accurate; that in the middle of a troubled marriage, she was suspicious of a female friend who was constantly hanging around her husband, and who shares a relationship with him; that it is highly probable that she attempted to elicit information from Kim by pretending to be Quichocho via emails and texts.

Importantly, Terlaje said, Frances admitted her inappropriate conduct in impersonating her husband in the emails.

Settlement fund trustee vows to be accessible to retirees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney Joyce Tang, the newly appointed settlement fund trustee, assures retirees and the public that she will be very accessible to them.

In an interview with reporters on Monday, Tang said that acting NMI Retirement Fund administrator Lillian Pangelinan is extremely capable and has an excellent team. All 18 Fund employees will be coming over to the settlement fund.

"To deal with daily questions we will certainly make sure our staff is [and] has always been quite knowledgeable and informative. We will continue to provide that level of service," Tang said.

Tang

At the Betty Johnson's class action fairness hearing on Monday, Lorenzo Cabrera of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, stated among other things, that Tang will not be accessible to retirees as she is based in Guam, and that class representative Johnson is not from the CNMI.

But in the interview after the hearing, Tang vowed that she will make herself available when she is here on Saipan and that they will have regular meetings.

"I will do my best to accommodate the retirees," she added.

Tang assured that there will be some community meetings with the retirees, lawmakers, and Gov. Eloy Inos. In fact, Tang said that she just talked to Inos on Sunday to work out a schedule to accomplish these meetings.

The federal court appointed Tang and the Civille & Tang law firm as trustee who will run the settlement fund created under the settlement agreement. The settlement agreement requires the court to appoint the trustee, possessing all the powers of a federal receiver.

In a separate interview, assistant attorney general Reena Patel said it was good for U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood to hear the objections and concerns of retirees at the fairness hearing.

Patel said it was also good for members of the Legislature who were in court to hear those objections.

"It was a very difficult decision to make the provisions and the terms of the settlement agreement as they were. And ultimately, the court has decided that the terms are fair given the objections," she said.

Woodruff found in civil contempt

»Lawyer faces 5-day jail term unless...

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman found attorney Stephen C. Woodruff in civil contempt yesterday for not complying with the court's disbarment order and sentenced him to five days in jail.

The jail sentence will, however, be suspended if the Woodruff complies with the requirements of the disbarment order by Oct. 8, 2013.

Woodruff was also required to pay the costs of disciplinary counsel Thomas E. Clifford for the time he spent preparing for and attending to this matter. Clifford was given 10 days to submit his billing.

Woodruff

Woodruff said he has not seen the contempt order but that if there is one it will be appealed.

Woodruff said he has repeatedly told Wiseman on the record that Wiseman needs to recuse himself because of his bias and prejudice against him, but he repeatedly refuses.

"That is one of the issues in my appeal of the disbarment order. Judge Wiseman continues in his improper campaign to defame me and apparently to attempt to interfere with my ability to practice before federal tribunals," he said.

In his order yesterday, Wiseman said that Woodruff has not shown by clear and convincing evidence why he justifiably failed to follow the disbarment order of June 7, 2013, which also mandated compliance with Rule 15 of the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedure.

Rule 15 requires a disbarred attorney to file with the Superior Court within 10 days after the disbarment an affidavit showing he has complied with the provisions of the order and the disciplinary rules, and that he has notified all other state, federal and administrative jurisdictions to which he is admitted to practice of the disbarment.

Rule 15 also requires a disbarred attorney to notify all his or her clients of the disbarment and advising these clients to seek other legal assistance.

Wiseman ordered Woodruff's disbarment from the CNMI Bar on June 7, 2013, for 44 violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Some three months later, on Sept. 19, 2013, Wiseman summoned Woodruff and directed him to explain why he should not be held in contempt for failing to follow the disbarment order.

At the show cause hearing on Sept. 27, 2013, Woodruff appeared for himself. Clifford appeared as disciplinary counsel.

In his ruling yesterday, Wiseman said the proof for civil contempt must be clear and convincing—a standard higher than a "preponderance of evidence" but lower than "beyond a reasonable doubt."

Wiseman said the disbarment order required Woodruff to submit a list of his clients within 30 days after the June 7 disbarment order. As of the Sept. 27 hearing, no such list had been filed, the judge said.

Also, Wiseman said, Woodruff had not filed with the court his affidavit showing compliance with any of the mandates.

During the proceedings, Wiseman said, Woodruff was given ample opportunity to explain why he has not complied with the requirements of the court's disbarment order, which also implicated Rule 15.

Woodruff argued, however, that he had requested a stay (or suspension) from the CNMI Supreme Court in this matter, and that he had already notified his clients of his inability to practice law when the CNMI Supreme Court suspended him in February 2013. He also asserted that he did not have any clients when the disbarment order was issued, and the orders of payment were not final orders.

The disbarment order also required Woodruff to pay the cost of prosecution in the amount of $6,120 and reimbursement for several clients totaling $2,850.

Wiseman said he is not swayed by Woodruff's arguments.

"There is currently no effective stay in place that could divest this court of its jurisdiction," the judge said.

Wiseman said there is no stay in place because the Supreme Court has not yet granted or denied Woodruff's request.

Further, the judge noted, a motion for a stay must follow the guidelines in Rule 8 of the NMI Supreme Court Rules, which entails specific requirements beyond that of a single sentence requesting a stay.

As for Woodruff's argument that he had no clients to notify of his disbarment because the Supreme Court had suspended him since February 2013, Wiseman said the court has no knowledge of this.

Wiseman said the Supreme Court's suspension order of Woodruff in February 2013 occurred long before the disbarment order and that he fails to see a connection between that case and the current issue of disbarment and its requirements.

AMP turns over Trunk or Treat to the Rotary

The American Memorial Park will not be organizing this year's Trunk or Treat after it returned the hosting duties for the popular annual Halloween event to the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Chief ranger Jason Beatty said the local Rotary Club is better suited to organizing the Trunk of Treat event than the AMP.

He said the Rotary, as a community organization, is better equipped in coordinating the event like inviting other stakeholders and asking assistance from the Department of Public Safety with traffic rerouting around the park.

Beatty said the AMP has organized the Trunk or Treat the past six years and it's about time the reins of the event returns to the original host.

He assured, though, that AMP would continue to assist Rotary Club in staging the event, especially in securing the area and making it safe for participants.

Rotary Club of Saipan president Laila Y. Boyer said last week, during the civic group's meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, that Trunk of Treat has become more important this year following the demise of similar Halloween events at MIHA Housing and Tottotville.

Unlike previous years, the 2013 Trunk of Treat event would have a later starting time so that candies, especially chocolates, won't melt under the heat of the sun, she said.

Boyer also asked local businesses and government agencies to help the Rotary Club in organizing the event. This year's theme would be local legends and Boyer is urging the community to dress up and make their costumes with that in mind.

Last year, some 2,500 Halloween revelers put on colorful and elaborate costumes during the 2012 Trunk or Treat at the American Memorial Park.

Some of the groups that hosted trunks at the 2012 event were Coastal Resources Management, Division of Environmental Quality, Girl Scouts of the NMI, Public School System Headstart Program, 302nd QM Det. 1 and 442nd 100 BN Family Readiness Groups, Transpacific Group, Transportation Security Administration, Marriage Encounter, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, U.S. Navy, and three residents. ***(Mark Rabago)***

New officers elected to Pacific Judicial Council

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Guam Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido, outgoing president of the Pacific Judicial Council, announced yesterday the election of new officers to serve for the 2014-2016 term.

The Pacific Judicial Council is the regional organization of judicial officers from Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia including FSM State Courts of Yap, Pohnpei, Kosrae, and Chuuk; the Republic of Palau, and American Samoa.

» FSM Chief Justice Martin Yinug elected president

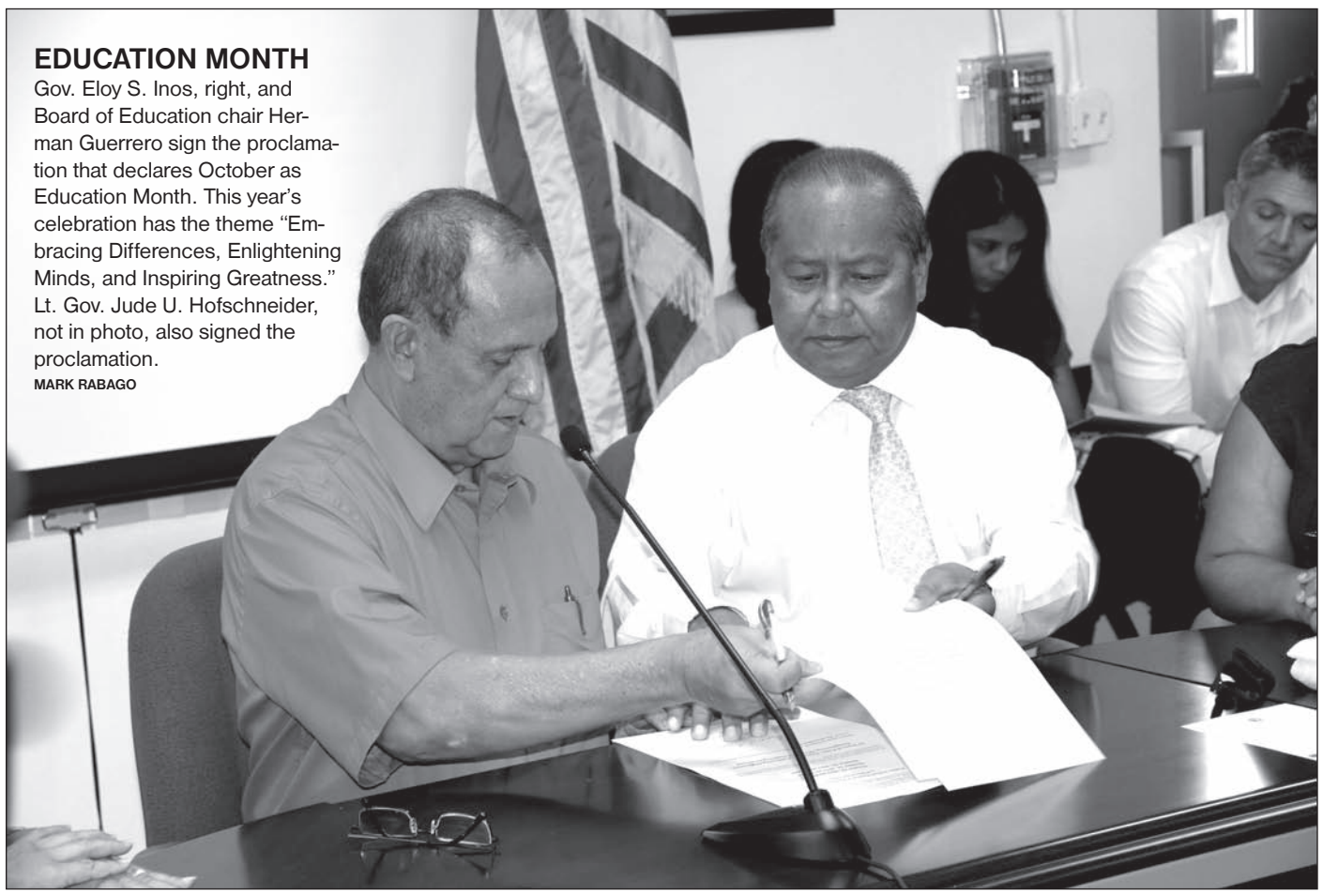
Elected president is Chief Justice Martin Yinug of the Supreme Court of the Federated States of Micronesia. Incoming vice president is Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood of the U.S. District Court of Guam. Secretary is Chief Justice F. Michael Kruse of the High Court of American Samoa. Elected treasurer is Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III of the Superior Court of Guam.

"I am pleased that our executive committee has elected [Yinug] to lead our organization. I leave the leadership of the group in wise and capable hands and believe he will continue to focus on programs and initiatives designed to improve the administration of justice in our region," said Carbullido.

Yinug took his oath of office as chief justice of the Federated States of Micronesia on May 5, 2011. He succeeded the late Chief Justice Andon L. Amaraich and was appointed by FSM President Manny Mori. Yinug is a native son of Yap and has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from San Francisco State University and a juris doctorate from the Catholic University of America Law School in Washington D.C. Yinug has extensive experience working in the legal and public sector of the Federated States of Micronesia and has served on the bench for more than 20 years.

Carbullido added, "Chief Justice Yinug has a long history advocating for judicial independence and adequate funding from the other two branches to resolve disputes and render justice in a timely manner. He is held in high esteem in his country and is committed to the administration of justice."

Yinug will assume office in January 2014. ***(Judiciary of Guam)***



EDUCATION MONTH
Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, and Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero sign the proclamation that declares October as Education Month. This year's celebration has the theme "Embracing Differences, Enlightening Minds, and Inspiring Greatness." Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, not in photo, also signed the proclamation.
MARK RABAGO

Federal grant opportunities

The Office of Grants Management announces several federal grant opportunities for the following:

A. Coral Reef Conservation Program International Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreements: *1) CRCP Domestic Coral Reef Conservation Grants; 2) CRCP International Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreements; 3) CRCP Fishery Management Council Coral Reef Conservation Cooperative Agreements*

Eligible applicants: Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, small businesses, private institutions of higher education, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, for profit organizations other than small businesses, nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

For the full description of the grant, access grants.gov or the direct link at: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=242375.

B. Documenting Endangered Languages: *This funding partnership between the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities supports projects to develop and advance knowledge concerning endangered human languages. Funding can support fieldwork and other activities relevant to the digital recording, documenting, and archiving of endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases.*

Eligible applicants: Nonprofit, non-academic organizations: For project grants: No eligibility limit. For fellowships: U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for fellowships. Foreign nationals who have been living in the United States or its jurisdictions for at least the three years prior to the proposal deadline are also eligible to apply for fellowships. Applicants can be affiliated with an institution or be an unaffiliated individual.

For the full description of the grant, access grants.gov or the direct link at: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=101056.

C. International Research Experiences for Students: *The International Research Experiences for Students program supports development of globally-engaged U.S. science and engineering students capable of performing in an international research environment at the forefront of science and engineering. The IRES program supports active research participation by students enrolled as undergraduates or graduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation. IRES projects involve students in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the IRES program.*

Eligible applicants: Nonprofit, non-academic organizations: Independent museums, observatories, research labs, professional societies and similar organizations in the U.S. associated with educational or research activities. Universities and colleges: Universities and two- and four-year colleges (including community colleges) accredited in, and having a campus located in the U.S., acting on behalf of their faculty members. Such organizations are also referred to as academic institutions.

For the full description of the grant, access grants.gov or the direct link at: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=162734.

D. Ocean Sciences Research Initiation Grants: The Division of Ocean Sciences offers Research Initiation Grants in an effort to increase the participation of under-represented groups in the ocean sciences. Research Initiation Grants provide startup funding for researchers who have been recently appointed to tenure track (or equivalent) positions, with the twin goals of enhancing the development of their research careers and broadening the participation of under-represented groups in ocean sciences. In this solicitation, the term under-represented groups will refer to and include the following: women, persons with disabilities, African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Pacific Islanders.

Eligible applicants: Nonprofit, non-academic organizations, academic institutions.

For the full description of the grant, access grants.gov or the direct link at http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=204256. ***(Office of the Governor)***

David R. Jones & Deothora C. Jones
1255 Pale San Vitores Road
Tumon Bay, Guam 96913
Telephone No.: (671) 727-9555

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For: **L.J.I., (9/2/2002) & A.J.I., (12/4/2006)** Minor Children, By: David R. Jones and Deothora C. Jones Petitioners	**FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0447** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 10/24, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 23th day of September, 2013.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Benigno Magofna Sablan &
Mira de-Brum Sablan
P.O. Box 5211 CHRB
Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: (670) 322-1494

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: **Z.S.C.,** Minor Child By: Benigno M. Sablan & Mira B. Sablan Petitioners	**FCD AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0465** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 11/18, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 217A, before the Associate Judge Perry B. Inos..

Dated this 1th day of October, 2013.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Free customer service, computer training for retirees, others

The Northern Marianas College Workforce Development and Apprenticeship Program, through its partner, Community Development Institute, is inviting retirees and other U.S. eligible adults to participate in its free Customer Service Series and Computer Literacy Skills courses designed for retirees and those individuals who would like to transition back into the workforce.

As a part of the free service, a skills and needs assessment will be conducted for the participants. The curriculum is designed for adult workers, retirees, and other U.S. eligible individuals who are interested in learning new skills or sharpening their current skills to correspond to current workforce needs.

The courses that will be offered include leadership skills, transitioning back into the classroom and/or work environment, customer service, time management, stress management, and computer literacy, and many more. The courses will start the first week of November and will run through December, except holidays. Classes will be flexible and geared mainly with the retiree population. This program is funded by the Commonwealth Worker, or CW, fees.

According to David Attao, dean of Administration and Resource Development, "The 25-percent reduction in retirement benefits will impact many of our retirees, and some of them have considered re-entering the workforce. We want to help by extending these skill development courses to them for free, in the event that they may choose to transition back to the workforce."

"I am urging everyone to take advantage of this opportunity and other opportunities we offer to help strengthen local workforce capacity," added Attao. "I continue to acknowledge our governor and our Legislature for providing these funds and to our partners for assisting with the programs."

The classes are precursors to NMC's upcoming Workforce Development Industry Series. The industry series is designed to meet the needs of industries by providing training and educational opportunities to U.S. eligible workers in line with industry needs. One of the primary industries to be served is the tourism and hospitality industry, among others.

In collaboration with NMC's partners, workers will be initially trained by NMC then either referred for further training, or educational opportunities in an NMC academic program, the Northern Marianas Trades Institute or equivalent, apprenticeship program, WIA, and/or into businesses for those who qualify or adequately demonstrate the needed skills and knowledge.

Registration for classes will run from Oct. 15 through Oct. 29 at the Northern Marianas College sites on Tinian, Rota, and Saipan. To register on Tinian, contact Maria Aguon at 433-0649 or maria.aguon@marianas.edu; on Rota, contact Barnaby Lizama at 532-9472 or barnaby.lizama@marianas.edu; and on Saipan, contact Eileen Babauta at 237-6764, or eileen.babauta@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Cultural exhibit closes shop early

The 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit only had a two-week run this year after the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture pulled the plug on the event following the resignation of Arts Council coordinator Darrell Moteisou.

Council executive director Angel S. Hocog said that Moteisou resigned last week and will be relocating off-island.

He said the council currently has a manpower shortage and the resignation of the 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit coordinator left him with no choice but to end the event last Friday, Sept. 27.

The 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit was supposed to run from Sept. 10 to Oct. 10 at the lobby of the Kanoa Resort in Susupe.

Despite the abbreviated run of the exhibit, Hocog maintained that it was still a successful event, with many of the participating artists able to sell their artworks.

A total of 12 artists took part in the 2013 Cultural Heritage Exhibit: Flowerpot Salas, ornamental flowers and hats; Sylvia Daguitan, baskets; Michael Finney, wood carving; Jill Arenovski, paper arts; Greg Bacnis, sketching; Ireneo David, dry lead painting; Melchy Billy, Carolinian beads; Paula Teregeyo, Carolinian beads; Nick Klewei, carving and painting; Vicente C. Duenas, spray painting; Martin Castro; and Priscilla Pangelinan, recycled arts.

The Arts Council has been staging the Cultural Heritage Exhibit for about 10 years and this was the second straight year that the Kanoa Resort hosted the exhibit.

The Cultural Heritage Exhibit is one of the three major exhibits hosted annually by the Arts Council. The other two are the Women's Exhibit every March and the Christmas Exhibit in December. ***(Mark Rabago)***

Vehicle license plates now available

The Department of Public Safety's Bureau of Motor Vehicle announced yesterday that the official vehicle license plates are now in. All vehicle operators/owners with temporary plates (paper license plates) are asked to come in to BMV to obtain the official license plates for their vehicles.

All vehicle operators/owners are asked to bring their vehicle registration for verification and to be updated with the official license plates that they will be issued.

For more information, contact the Bureau of Motor Vehicle at (670) 664-9066/9069/9070. ***(DPS)***

10 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 10 beach sites on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected beaches are adjacent to the Plumeria Hotel, Aqua Resort Club, Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW channel bridge, Samoa Housing, Hafa Adai Hotel, Hafa Adai drainage, CK District 4 Lally Beach, Hopwood Junior High School Beach, and San Antonio Beach.

Samples collected from thee locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

ME group to host bike fundraiser

The CNMI Chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a non-profit organization designed to help married couples live a more harmonious life through enhanced communication skills. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend is set for Nov. 8–10, 2013, at the Kanoa Resort Saipan where approximately 25 couples will be "Encountered." Each Weekend is a financial endeavor to raise $10,000 to cover the costs of the hotel, meals, and materials for all the couples and the presenters. As such, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is organizing a series of fundraising activities this season.

On Sunday, Oct. 13, 2013, ME is preparing for the Pre-HOM Fundraising Bike Race for the island's cycling community starting at Mariana Resort & Spa. The start and finish will mimic the HOM Race on Dec. 7, 2013. Cyclists who are interested in practicing part of the HOM route should definitely enter!

There will be four courses ranging in distance (50km, 25km, 16km, 8km) and the event is presented as a family-friendly activity with both kids and adult divisions. Entry fees are $10 adults and $5 kids (ages 6–13 years old).

The race day check-in time is 5am–5:45am, with the race start at 6am.

Race entry forms are available at Gold's Gym Saipan. For sponsorship or race information, contact Russ and Kanae Quinn at 285-1168 or email kanae@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

OCTOBER 5–19, 2013
FLEMING HOTEL, TINIAN
7:00–8:30 PM EVERY NIGHT EXCEPT THURSDAY
THEME:
The King is COMING
SPEAKER: EVANGELIST & INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER CARLOS SOTOMAYOR
FEATURING: FREE BIBLE FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE & THE LIFE TRANSFORMING POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD.
For more info please call 286-0098 or 285-0782

How's Your Hearing?
Specializing in:
Hearing Evaluations
Custom fitted hearing aids
Digital and Programmable Technology
Custom Communication Devices
Friday, October 4th 8:30am - 4:00pm
Saturday, October 5th 9:00am - 1:00pm
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan
Ross Hearing Aids
All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid
Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: ross@guamcell.net

Guam soldiers earn high NTM-A honors

By SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA
GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The winning duo from the Guam Army National Guard's 1-294th Infantry Regiment display their impact Army Achievement Medals Aug. 22 at Camp Eggers, Kabul, Afghanistan. Sgt. Gordon G. Blackmon of Headquarters-Headquarters Company, left, and Spc. Eric G. Gatmen of Charlie Company were named the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan's Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Quarter, respectively.
U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

CAMP EGGERS, Afghanistan—Two soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment recently earned high honors from the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, NTM-A.

Sgt. Gordon G. Blackmon, air movement noncommissioned officer for Headquarters-Headquarters Company, earned NTM-A's NCO of the Quarter honor while Spc. Eric G. Gatmen of Charlie Company earned NTM-A's Soldier of the Quarter as well.

The two stood before a committee of senior NCOs that included Command Sgt. Maj. Gabriel Cervantes, NTM-A command sergeant major, and answered questions relating to the U.S. Army and Operation Enduring Freedom. They scored the highest amongst competitors from other units.

"We studied. We were prepared," said Blackmon. "We're thankful we were given the opportunity."

Cervantes commended the Guam Guardsmen and awarded each with an NTM-A coin. Speaking before a formation, Cervantes praised Blackmon and Gatmen and the Guam Guard overall for having "outstanding soldiers who know their jobs very well and carry out their missions professionally."

Blackmon and Gatmen earned impact Army Achievement Medals. Lt. Col. Michael Tougher, Task Force Guam commander, pinned the medals on them. The soldiers were applauded by Charlie, Echo and HHC soldiers who witnessed the honors.

"It's like what Command Sgt. Maj Cervantes said, Guam has outstanding soldiers and this is proof of that," said Command Sgt. Maj. Mel Hennegan, Task Force Guam command sergeant major.

Cervantes is the direct senior enlisted adviser to Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, NTM-A commander.

The NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan, headquartered at Camp Eggers, is a subordinate of the Afghanistan International Security Assistance Force that oversees training and equipping of Afghanistan forces throughout the country.

Almost three dozen NATO countries, as well as close to a dozen non-NATO nations, contribute to NTM-A's mission.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Rhythm 'N Harmony concert this weekend

The Marianas High School's award winning and nationally recognized glee club, Rhythm 'N Harmony, will be presenting its first concert of the 2013-13 season this weekend. Come and enjoy selections from their musical repertoire at the Marianas High School's Dolphin Theater this Friday, Oct. 4, at 7pm or on Saturday, Oct. 5, at either 4pm or 7pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door: $3 for students or $5 for adults. ***(PR)***

3 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Jeffry's Beach, Hidden Beach, and Obyan Beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these sites contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. DEQ analyzed samples of 12 east and south recreational beaches on Saipan this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

3 Kagman schools to hold joint PTSA meeting

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community for all three Kagman schools—Kagman Elementary School, Chacha Middle School, and Kagman High School—that there will be a PTSA meeting on Oct. 4, 2013, from 6pm to 7pm at the Kagman High School cafeteria. Please remember that we need a quorum of 50 parents to hold the meeting. Call the school at 237-3965 or 237-3967 if you have any question or concerns. Office hours are from 7:30am to 4:30pm (Monday to Friday). ***(PR)***

MHS mid-progress reports today

Marianas High School would like to invite all parents and guardians to its first quarter Mid-Progress Report today, Oct. 3, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm. All teachers will be distributing the reports at the MHS Gym. Students will be released at the normal bell schedule time of 3pm. Call 237-3206 for further information. ***(PR)***

SSHS mid-progress report night today

Saipan Southern High School invites parents to meet with their child's teachers at the first quarter Mid-Progress Report Night. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 3pm to 6pm today, Oct. 3, 2013, and counselors and administrators will also be available for consultation. Students will be released at 1:05pm on this day. ***(PR)***

Free loan packaging workshop

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents a free workshop, "SSBCI Loan Packaging," on Oct. 4, 2013, 10am-12pm, at the Saipan Chamber Of Commerce, 2nd floor. Online registration is available at pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com. Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one business day before workshop. Walk-ins are allowed and granted on space availability. Call (670) 664-3018 for pre-registration. ***(PR)***

Bereaved families support group meeting today

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 6am to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai. The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. ***(PR)***

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Oct. 3 from 10am to 6pm and 8:30pm to 10pm
- Oct. 4 from 9am to 6pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. ***(PR)***

DEQ Brigade sets Makaka Beach cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality's Cleanup Brigade will be picking up trash at Makaka Beach on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2013, at 8am. If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the Makaka Beach area/parking lot at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed. This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a brigade t-shirt. For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. ***(DEQ)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 3, 2005

Govt, law firm oppose end of BoS receivership

A law firm that worked for former Bank of Saipan receiver Randall Fennell said government depositors are losing millions of dollars in declining interests on long-term deposits, opposing the request of bank directors and current receiver Antonio Muna to end the receivership. In a separate submission to the Superior Court, the CNMI government also opposed the bank directors and Muna's request to end the receivership at this time. Acting Commerce Secretary Daniel L. Camacho and the law firm Schwabe, Williamson, and Wyatt said Muna's request for exoneration is premature without a full and final accounting of his actions as receiver.

PSS may lay off staff if $50M budget is not approved

The Public School System may have no choice but retrench some of its employees if its proposed $50 million budget for the new fiscal year is not approved, according to a ranking PSS official. Board of Education member Herman T. Guerrero made the statement during an interview with the media at the Governor's Office Friday morning. Guerrero, who had a brief meeting with Gov. Juan N. Babauta that day, said the PSS would continue to fight for an increase from its current $37.2 million budget. He said the worst-case scenario if the budget is not approved, is for PSS to lay off some school staff, which most likely would come from ranks of teacher aides.

October 3, 2006

Lower power bills by Nov.

Consumers are expected to receive lower power bills by November due to a decrease in electric fuel charge, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. The November billing represents power usage in October. CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis told the Saipan Tribune yesterday that the September fuel charge was $0.219 per kilowatt-hour, but for this month the fuel charge is only $0.194 per kilowatt-hour. "The decrease is 2.5 cents per kilowatt-hour. That's a large decrease," Mathis said.

Govt looks at outside loan

If the federal government is unable to bail out the CNMI from its current financial crisis, the local government might just secure loans from "outside sources." This possibility was discussed during yesterday morning's Cabinet meeting at the Governor's Office. press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said the issue was raised by Finance chief Eloy Inos. "Secretary Inos has identified some potential funding sources that could be of great benefit to the CNMI in terms of infrastructure funding," said Reyes in an interview. He said it would be in a form of "private financing or loan at a very reasonable rate." He declined to give details, citing that the matter is being referred to the Attorney General's Office for review.

October 3, 2007

CUC operations, federal funds could be impacted

The forced work stoppage of more than 20 nonresident workers and six engineers at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is a serious problem that may have an impact on the multi-million federal funding being awarded to CUC. CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the lack of engineers and their technical expertise is against some of CUC's agreements with the federal government. "We've got to have technical staff on board. We run a dangerous, hazardous utility system and there are technical aspects with water operations and wastewater operations and the power plant and the field crews have to have the support of engineers," Mathis pointed out.

Garapan basketball lights left on even after midnight

For several nights now, the floodlights at the basketball court in Garapan by the former Chamolinian Village have been left open even after midnight. This has prompted the attention of concerned citizens, who could not help wonder why the lights are left on even when there is no one using the venue after 2am. CNMI Parks and Recreation Division, the government agency in charge of the sports venue, was equally surprised when informed about this. Division director Tony Benavente said the basketball court in Garapan is open for use at night from 7pm to 11:30pm only. He said any group that requests to use the venue is tasked to turn the lights off after use.

Island Snapshots

ARBOR DAY

Kanoa Resort employees participate in a cleanup at Hopwood Junior High School on Tuesday, Oct. 1, as part of the celebration of Arbor Day. Armed with hand gloves and trash bags, the group started their cleanup from the front gate all the way to the beach side of the Hopwood Junior High School. Several bags of trash were collected and brought to the Kanoa Resort for disposal. Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas was so happy with the hotel's effort that he now plans to partner with Kanoa Resort on a regular basis. Barcinas also plans to include his Cohort Teams in similar future activities.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kanoa Resort resident manager Mark Ratliff, center, presents gift certificates as a donation to the Empty Vessel Foundation women's support group.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ANTI-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Members and stakeholders of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Family Violence Task Force pose with the "Bridge of Light" awardee, police detective Flora Aguon, and nominees during Tuesday's proclamation signing declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward, center, stands with Navy leadership and members of Fleet and Family Support Center Guam, following a proclamation signing that recognizes October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the NBG headquarters in Santa Rita on Sept. 30. The proclamation promotes healthy relationships by raising awareness of this issue that affects both military and civilian communities. "It's very destructive to families and victims," Ward said. "That certainly impacts mission wherever those folks happen to live and work, as well. We bring attention to the issue here to empower ourselves not only in the month of October, but throughout the year." This year's theme of "Silence Hides Violence" directs everyone to speak out against domestic violence and seek help from professionals. The Navy, through its Fleet and Family Support Center's Family Advocacy Program, encourages sailors and family members to participate at several domestic violence prevention activities on Guam. This photo has been altered for security purposes.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Becky Lynn Palacios C. Lizama (Maryland) and Jessica S. Guerrero (Saipan), who are both celebrating their special day today, (Oct. 3! God bless you all. Greetings come from Becky P. Cruz, families, and friends.

Happy 14th birthday to John Granada! May the Lord bless and shower you with all the blessings on this special day. May He guide you every day with much love for your future. Greetings coming out from your mother, brother, sisters and the rest of the family.

Happy 1st birthday to our son, Kiku! May the Lord continue to bless you and guide us as we raise you in the years to come! Love, Mommy and Daddy.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 197

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
AP The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Govt shuts down as Obamacare starts up

Americans awoke Tuesday to the fact that nearly half the federal government has shut down, and to a certainty that one-sixth of the U.S. economy will be profoundly altered via Obamacare.

We mention these two points together because House Republicans want a one-year delay on new health provisions before they'll approve a new federal budget. Democrats refuse.

Result: Hundreds of thousands of "nonessential" government workers may be idled for hours, days, weeks. Many federal offices will be closed, workers furloughed while Congress tries to unknot itself. (Essential services—cutting Social Security checks, patrolling the border, keeping airports safe—will continue.)

But even a government shutdown won't stop the Obamacare rollout. This is the largest health care expansion since the passage of Medicare in 1965. It is here, now. Millions of Americans must obtain coverage or pay a penalty.

On Tuesday, the new online marketplaces opened for business. That means some of Obamacare's mysteries will be solved: What will coverage cost? What will plans cover? How much will copays and deductibles be?

Federal and state officials have scrambled for months, blowing deadline after deadline, to make the system ready. They've encountered bugs: A few days ago came reports that the software was miscalculating the federal subsidies available to low-income people who seek to buy coverage.

We all know the people who crouch in front of their computers, ready at the stroke of midnight to buy the latest iPhone or sign up for the Next Big Internet Thing. In this case, however, you may want to wait for a few days (weeks?) to let the feds work out the kinks.

What's certain is that Obamacare health care changes will ripple through every American's life. Doctors, hospitals and insurers have invested large sums to gear up for the law's complex requirements. They'll treat many new patients.

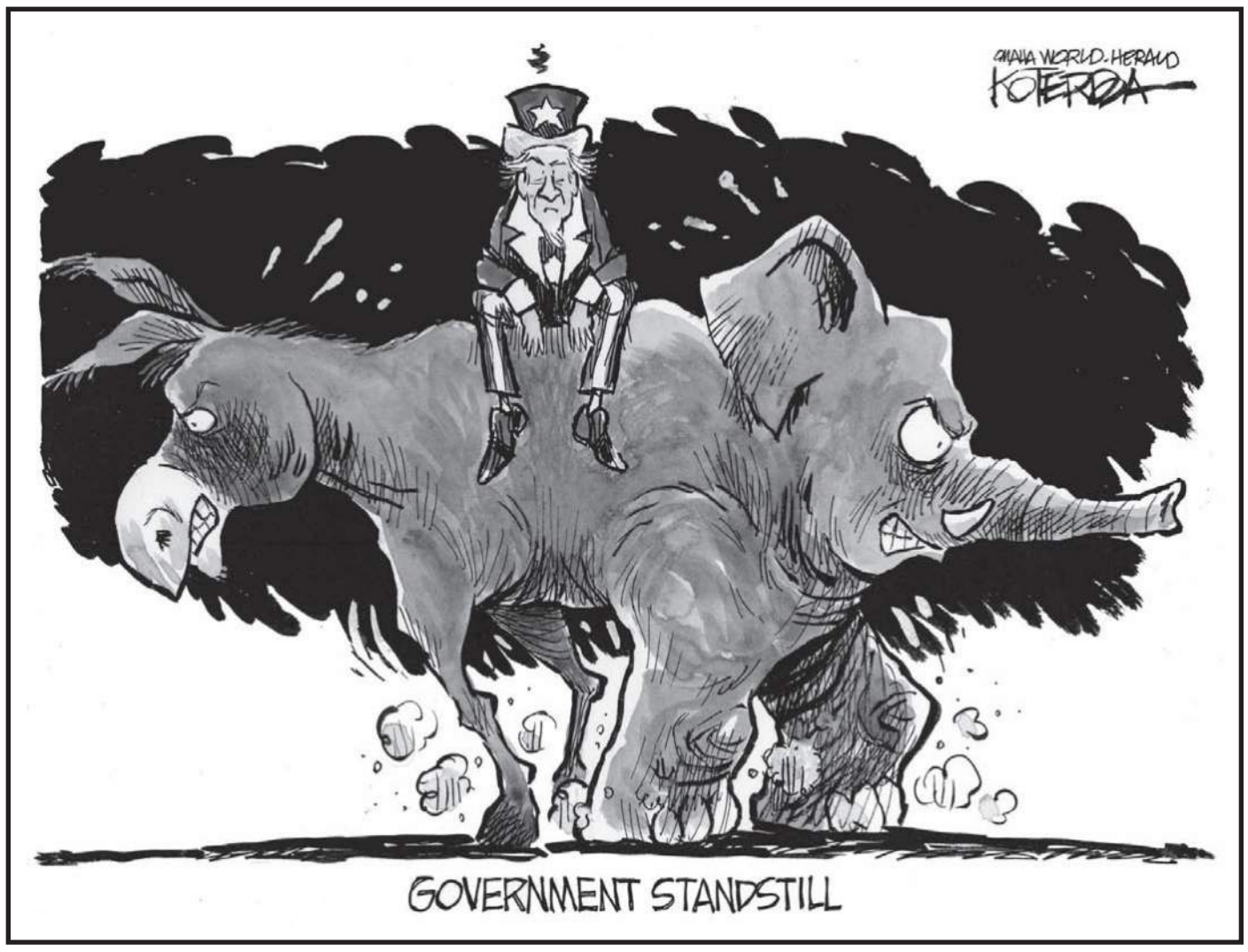
Employers are scrambling to make decisions: Hire? Fire? Cut workers' hours? Even those that now provide health care may shunt employees into new, privately run exchanges. That's a rapidly evolving alternative to today's employer-managed insurance system and to Obamacare: Employers pay a set amount for employees, who then choose from among multiple plans on a private exchange.

Millions of Americans stand to gain or lose from this law and its consequences, intended and unintended. And now, as if to compound all the controversy that Obamacare has provoked, it's caught up in an epic battle over deficits and debt. House Republicans gamble that Americans won't blame them for hanging a "closed" sign on national parks and monuments or for stalling applications for small business loans or delaying an Internal Revenue Service audit.

The Republicans argue that Obamacare's mandates are so unpopular that Americans will understand a shutdown. We think they instead should be focusing their attack on the unsustainability of all major entitlement programs. Obamacare, which stands to become a huge and profligate federal spending spree, is but one of those entitlements: If too few young, healthy people sign up for insurance, the program will likely become even more expensive for taxpayers.

We've backed a delay in the law because it isn't ready for

See OBAMACARE on Next Page



Pouring milk on a bowl of cereal is just too much

"Sitting down, pouring cereal and adding milk is simply too inconvenient for today's on-the-go crowd."—The Wall Street Journal, *Sept. 16*

By KEVIN HORRIGAN
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Kevin Horrigan is a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. *Readers may write to him at:* St. Louis Post-Dispatch, *900 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101, or email him at khorrigan@post-dispatch.com.*

Well, you can certainly understand why. First, you have to have milk in the fridge. And not just milk, but milk that hasn't gone bad.

Also, you have to have a box of cereal, which can eat the heart out of a $5 bill in nothing flat.

And then there's the issue of a clean bowl and the related issue of a clean spoon. If you ate a bowl of cereal yesterday and want to eat another one today, and realize that you were so eager to be on-the-go that you forgot to rinse the bowl and spoon, you will be confronted with the hardest substance known to humanity: dried-on cereal.

I have often thought that if we wanted to solve the nuclear waste-storage problem, we would encase the spent fuel rods in dried-on cereal and then package the whole thing in a giant plastic CD or DVD case.

Sure, you could soak your cereal bowl in hot water for a few minutes. Alternately, you could plug in a belt sander, but believe you me, it's hard to make a sander work inside a cereal bowl.

But we on-the-go types don't want to be soaking or sanding cereal bowls. We want to be out partying or creating an Internet start-up company or saving a whale.

Cereal? This is not "Seinfeld," baby. This is life lived in the drive-thru lane.

Annie Gasparo reported in the *Journal*: "The maker of Cheerios is complaining that other cereal brands aren't doing their part to improve sales of the industry, as Americans are replacing their milk and bowls with foods that are lower-carb, higher-protein and easier to eat on the go. General Mills—which has a pretty big stake in the game—said analysts are questioning the future prospects for cereal in the United States.

"'And understand why,' said Jim Murphy, the president of General Mills' cereal division.

"The number of cereal boxes sold in the U.S. has declined over the last three years, 'and frankly,' he went on, other brands aren't doing enough innovation or advertising to keep the milk-and-bowl breakfast relevant."

At General Mills, the advertising agencies are using warm and fuzzy social commentary to sell Cheerios. The one with a biracial family incensed racist trolls around the country. No more Cheerios at Klan breakfasts.

There's also a spot where a cute little boy asks his mom if "Nana" fed her Cheerios while she was growing up. Mom chokes up when the boy says, "When we have Cheerios, it's kind of like we're having breakfast with Nana."

This showed how serious General Mills is about selling cereal. As Stephen Colbert noted, "Nobody ever thought to leverage the death of a grandparent to hawk some hoops of oat."

We on-the-go guys don't have much time to waste on schadenfreude, but let me just say this: The cereal cartel is getting what it deserves. It's always irked me that cereal costs so much. Granted, this doesn't irk me as much since there are no longer teenaged locust-boys in the house, but really? Five bucks for a box of sweetened processed grain?

In 2010, in a documentary series called "The Foods that Make Billions," the BBC reported that more money was spent advertising cereal than on any other food. The relationship between value and cost was negligible.

The entire industry was built on false advertising. W.K. Kellogg spent $150 on an ad in the Ladies Home Journal in 1906 warning readers that his corn-flake company might not be able to meet demand. He included a coupon just in case readers wanted to get ahead of the crowd.

In those days, people were not as sophisticated about advertising as we modern, on-the-go, pay-five-bucks-for-coffee people are. They fell for the trap.

Soon there were more than 100 companies making corn flakes in Battle Creek, Mich. The survivors were those that advertised the best and the most.

Today, 15 percent of the price of a box of cereal pays for the ingredients in the box—grain, sugar, marshmallows, more sugar, partly hydrogenated vegetable oil, sugar, rock-hard bits of fruit, ascorbic acid, sugar, other forms of sugar, etc. Forty-eight percent of the price goes for packaging, shipping, sales, promotion and advertising, much of which is aimed at children. The industry's average profit margin is 17 percent.

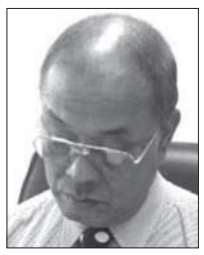
I've got to be on the go, but here's a tip for the industry: If you spent less on advertising—except, of course, for newspaper advertising, which is known to deliver high-dollar customers at a fraction of the cost of TV advertising—you could sell the cereal for less and still make 17 percent.

Of course, we on-the-go types won't eat it anyway. If we ate cereal at home, we wouldn't have time to wait in line at Starbucks.

Applacha' Na Politika

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Mampos natriste i guaha mana' fan basta empleau pot suspechu na manaigue gi dadalag Inos/Torres na pilean para gobietnu. Gaige este na malabida gi entalu' gobietnu yan komandanten sanhalom.

Nae' animu yan in' apprubecha. Gi finu' i kuentos, "Haf" kumilulog huyuñg siempre u birague' tatte". Sige machaole dadalag niha fuetsan politika pa'gu. Ti chagu' siempre gaige dadalag niha gi entalu' chachaga' pot seriosu na irida.

Repara sa' i chalan ni mapokakate ni republican pa'gu guiya i mismu katsadan destrosiu ni dumesgrana i pattidan democrat mas ke trenta años malofan. Nuebu na konseptun "minenhalom" na kontodu dinamita mapega gi galaide' niha.

Guiya este i huegon destrosiu ginen halom. Lastima sa' siha mas dumisgrana i guaguan na inañgogkun publiku. Ya siempre umarepite taimanu masusede gi ma'pos na eleksion 'nai mana' fan rempachu' huyuñg. Ti umahñau este na biahe! Nahuñg na sa'pet gi tautau siha.

Ni taimanu na doblada, sumen makat majustifika i miserapble na estau linala' 'nai mapega i publiku gi enteru iya Marianas.

Ni kaddun to'lañg alefante yan toru ti u nahoñg alimientu para u katga i makat na sa'pet ni mapega kumu rekueddon niha gi publiku. I minaipen tautau siempre u fattu tatte 'nai fuetsau mapañot amotmu niha mismu.

Modetnu Na Marianas

Kada unu libianu ha arastreha i tinilaika siha gi modun linala'ta desde uttimon siñkuenta na sakan esta pa'gu. Umanog siempre i dispasiu lau asigurau na tinilaika gi mesklau tradision yan modetnu na linala'ta.

Siñaha' buente hana' fan chichichi hit i antigosu na modun linala' pot chadeg na tiempu ta atileg i feggun elektrisida. Gi mismu sakudida gai presiu i nuebu na modun linala'ta. Makat na obligasion para megai gi tautau-ta.

Gi bandan offisiun famaguon, dañkulu na tinilaika desde kama' yan machete esta ipad, iphone yan laptop. Mauleg na kayus estaba gi kanai mame ginen este dos ramentan gualu.

Man-hanau ham para eskuela sin amotsan oga'an. Pa'gu, achog ti u fanõchu i famaguon gi gima' sa' guaha amotsa gi eskuela. Ileghu na kumu hagas guaha este na bintaha siña ha' lametgot fuetsaghu desde kabesa yan tatautau.

Sentru na konsiderasion kumikilulog gi hinasoghu: finana'gue gi famaguon-ta mana' tunog añklan niha espirituat pot no u fan lailai kulan naufragu gi halom chubaskun tasin linala'. I dos saina ha' siña umesgaihon mona famaguon niha gi halom mattirun todu aktibidat ni man-a'atotpe.

Na'magof i hutuñgu' na man-animu i mañaina siha gi finana'guen kuttura yan liñguahe. Fitme este na galaide' gi tradision-ta. Mas antau ineyag ennau na patgon 'nai fitme malulug gi hafa tinateña antes de u hatsa layagña kumarera namaisa.

Gi hilu' pinasensia ta esgaihon famaguon-ta mona, katma, pagyu, dilubiu pat linau.

Poduñg haligen kolat

Hu bisita i habas kolat ni hu payune gi 'nai pa'gu echuyu' lahe. Sessu hu kana'yu' gi troñkun tañgantañgan man-gabbe ramas para sakaten guaka.

Gi hilu' troñkun pagu libianu hu huñgog gi chagu' ayu siha na pinegsai manog i man-hatsadu. Sige pa'gu hu akanteha para bai' desguas dispues de lemlem tautau.

Gaige lokue' si tata yan pakiña kumakahat estake ha fuegu tropan galagu ni tumutuchu' pinegsai mame. Mientras tantu, huna' fañochu i ga'ga' siha antes de minachum atdau.

Mata'choñg ham kinafe. Ayu 'nai in' diskute desde liñguahe yan haf' planuhu 'an humuyuñgyu' gi high school. Sumen menhalom na amku'.

Guine gi alacha, hu liliku'e i mismu kolat. Manaigue i hagas halige kontodu alamlen tituka'. Kulan maliñgun hagas manatuñgo'hu lokue' ni man-hanau esta para i deskansun niha.

Man-nahlalañg

Estaba gi barandan un' lanchu mas ke dose na hiñeñggu' choda ni esta man-lasneg. Uttimoña mamoduñg gi hilu' satge ti mabenefisia.

Ilegña i yetnu gi as sugroña, "Ai tata, nae' mohon este siha i tautaumu ya uma-apprubecha ke u lastima."

Ineppe ni amku', "Man-gai pachot para u fañguentos. Ni unu fumaisenyu'. Ni guahu mismu ti hu kakanu' 'nau. Haf' minapotña mamaisen?"

Sige mona, ilegña i yetnu gi amku', "Maulegña ta famahan bote ya tafan mapeskaye para i tenda".

Ineppe, "Ihu, todu ti naturat un' ratutu ha' madisgrana. I bote todu i tiempu para papa' gi fondu. Lau rikonose ga'ta guaka gi pastahe sa' man-gaige gi papa' troñku achog pagyu pat hafa na ira".

■■■

Ha chule' i amku' un' pusuelu ya hana'ye mediu hanom. Ha pega i lapes halom. 'An un' atan echung 'nai umasuda' i lapes yan hanom. Mamaisen kau tunas pat echuñg i lapes. Mesklau i ineppen tautauña. Ha lagnos ya ilegña, "Tunas! Ni un' pega halom gi pusuelon hanom, tutunas ha' i lapes".

OBAMACARE

From Page 10

launch. But we wish the effort to kill Obamacare hadn't outpaced larger concerns about existing programs—Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security—that already risk insolvency.

Once Republicans and Democrats stop grandstanding and blaming each other for the current crisis, we think there's an easy solution to this impasse: Don't force individuals to sign up for coverage this year. Suspend that mandate for a year, just as employers were relieved for a year of their mandate to provide insurance.

A broader delay wouldn't end the law. But it would put employers and employees on equal footing. A year's delay could allow both major political parties to declare victory. Better, it would allow millions of Americans who obtain coverage under Obamacare, and many who don't, to see how this system works.

©2013 Chicago Tribune

Showdown points to lack of moderate leaders

Monday ended up being an ugly round of dueling faceoffs in Washington, so there is plenty of confusion over what will happen next in the latest budget battle. That includes over the upcoming debt ceiling fight.

But what is clear is that partisans who represent the never-give-an-inch Right and the unbending Left have given the U.S. another black eye to show the world.

What a mess. And what's frustrating is Americans in the middle have little voice.

Passionate "red state" Americans rely upon tea party conservatives to represent them. Dedicated "blue state" Americans make their voices heard through liberal lawmakers. But what about "purple state" Americans, the ones who blend left, right and center together into a middle-ground approach to politics? Where are their voices of reason in debates like the one roiling Washington?

On the sidelines, that's where. State legislatures draw congressional districts to pack conservatives together here, liberals together there. As a result, there's no incentive for an elected leader from one district to work with the elected leader of another because their districts are drawn to emphasize the extremes. Voters in the middle get squeezed out; moderates in the U.S. House struggle to be heard, and the Senate is only marginally better.

Something's gotta give.

We're intrigued by a proposal from the No Labels organization to move the country past its current fiscal crisis. Tired of seeing Congress' constant conflict, the bipartisan group proposed a Jobs First Plan. It would freeze tax-and-spending decisions until the unemployment rate hits 6.5 percent, which the Federal Reserve projects the nation could reach in a year. Meanwhile, each party would go to "time out" to rethink their strategies.

The proposal also would give each party something to cheer about in the short run. Republicans would get to keep the budget sequester in place, and Democrats would have Obamacare as the law of the land. What's more, there would be no debt ceiling fight for a while.

We're intrigued by this strategy because it could keep the economy from being thrown into a ditch by Washington's extreme partisanship. Congress could provide the economy a year of stability instead of afflicting it with management by crisis.

Sure, partisans on the left and right won't like this idea. But No Labels counts 85 Republican and Democratic lawmakers as members of its Problem Solvers Coalition. This is an idea worth fighting for.

Americans who want well-reasoned, middle-ground solutions in the future also should think about lobbying their statehouses for better congressional districts. By pressing state lawmakers to draw districts that reflect a mixture of voters, rather than packing Democrats together and Republicans together, voters can help avert the brinkmanship.

Districts drawn to make them all liberal or all conservative make compromise hard to achieve. Until Congress has more legislators willing to find the smart middle ground, we will keep lurching from crisis to crisis, or from black eye to black eye.

©2013 The Dallas Morning News

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Speak for yourself II

Ambrose, you said, "Vince, you may never be an America at heart but I can bet the locals who are putting their life on the line in public service like DPS, the National Guard, and in the military are proud and true Chamorro & Carolinian-Americans." Where is it in my letter that I mentioned that I do not value the heroism of the Chamorro and Carolinian fighting in the armed forces and whatnot? And since when have I pushed for casinos? I am perplexed just as anyone who believes you are adding irrelevant issues to the issues at hand. You vent your frustrations by circumventing around it rather than accepting constructive criticisms. It is bad journalism to include false statements never made by me. I'll just try to imagine it's the voices in your head that's making you do the devil's work.

America and the CNMI are two different atmospheres and not all principles of "Great America" will apply here. You can take this boy out of this island but you will never take the island out of this boy! Your ongoing campaign of changing Article 12 is your opinion and only the ballot will tell of the outcome. I have a close American friend who is married to a local and has children here just like you do but does not see things the way you do. You are confusing yourself and your fan base. You claim to be right on certain issues but the outcome does not go in your favor. Like your candidate bet? Now you are saluting Kilili for his achievements! Sometimes we all just got to save face. We all make mistakes anyway. Like I said before, stop talking before you hurt yourself. I read your response to me but never got to finish it because I bet it's going nowhere and leads to nowhere like I predicted. We like predictions don't we?

Not every idea thrown out there will be peaches and cream. If you have sound solutions to fixing our CNMI then by all means do so. The last time I checked, the U.S. is on shutdown and need an advice from a poly scientist/economist. We all know that change don't happen overnight. Good grief! Thanks for your time and this is my last letter to you as I am sure it's enough to rattle your chains or ruffle your feathers. Take care! Our people, our directions!

Vince G. Cabrera
Chalan Piao, Saipan

All equal

Congressman Charles Brownson of Indiana once said: "Never quarrel with a man who buys ink by the barrel."

Mr. John S. DelRosario doesn't buy the ink but he owns a space on the editorial page of the paper. So, I know it's not smart to quarrel with him. John will always get the last word. But when he accuses me of trying to "force Carolinians to bow to a new majority besides Chamorros" how can I not respond?

Mr. DelRosario, the Carolinians of the Northern Marianas do not bow to Chamorros. Where did you ever get that idea? We are all equals here, regardless of our race or heritage. If you need proof, just look at the last two elections for governor. A Carolinian won. He got votes from Carolinians, Chamorros, and people of every other bloodline that is mixed into our culture.

The truth is race does not determine who wins elections in the Northern Mariana Islands—and race never should.

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan
CNMI Delegate to Congress

A couple questions

Why did it have to take so long for former senator Ayuyu to lose his seat in the Senate? He should have been removed immediately after being arrested. Too bad the other senators didn't take initiative to act on his removal. They just sat back and waited. This just shows that the CNMI does not need nine senators in addition to the 20 representatives. What a waste of taxpayers' money.

Why is Ralph Torres running for lieutenant governor when he didn't accomplish much as a senator or representative? No job creation. No new industries. No economic revitalization. Inos is why the CNMI had to suffer under Fitial for two terms. Inos was the chairperson of the Covenant Party, which guaranteed us all "Better Times" if we elected Fitial. Inos and his political hires are the only ones who experienced "Better Times." This is "IT"? How about Let "IT" be over.

Antonio Aldan
Kagman, Saipan

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. West winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Northwest winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°	▲84° ▼75°	▲84° ▼75°

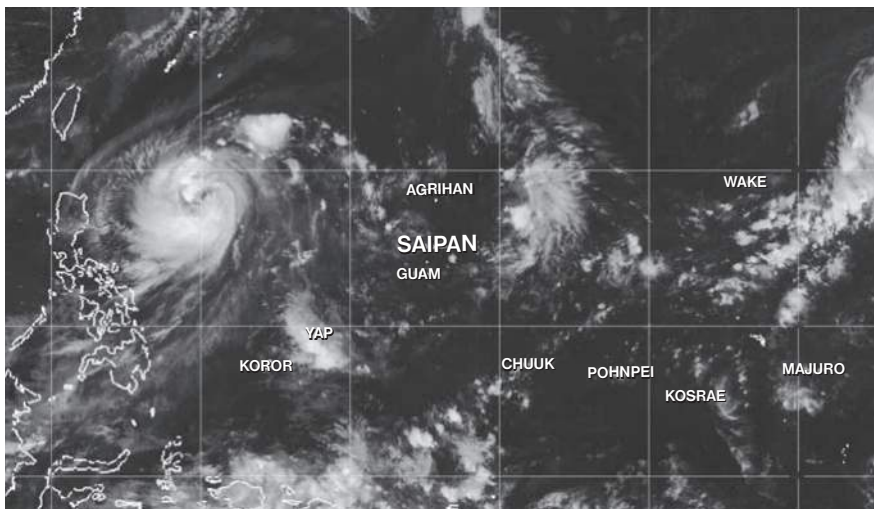
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲72	▼55
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲84	▼74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87	▼76
New York	Sunny	▲83	▼58
Osaka	Windy	▲78	▼63
Paris	Showers	▲76	▼63
Pusan	Windy	▲72	▼59
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Salem	Rain	▲58	▼44
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼54
Seoul	Sunny	▲70	▼50
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼66
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲87	▼65

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Fitow (22W) is centered 805 miles north-northwest of Koror at 18N130E moving north at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph. Heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms are found well north-northwest of Koror and Yap west of a line from 21N131E to 17N132E to 14N130E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present further east within 50 miles of a line from 22N132E to 22N138E to 16N143E. For more information on Tropical Storm Fitow, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM. A monsoon trough curves eastward from Tropical Storm Fitow across the Northern CNMI to a circulation centered east-northeast of Saipan at 17N150E then continues east-northeastward to a second weak circulation centered near 21N172E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms exist in three areas. The first is across Yap within 65 miles of a line from 11N136E to 7N140E. The second area is near the circulation east of Guam to northeast of Saipan within 120 miles of a line from 19N155E to 13N149E. The final area is further east from north of Pohnpei to north of Kwajalein to east of Wake Island within 160 miles of a line from 15N157E to 12N168E to 25N178E. Another surface trough extends northward from the circulation centered near 17N150E to 25N149E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are with the trough north of a line from 22N148E to 24N153E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:25 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
7:08 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:32 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
7:37 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:05 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:16 AM	4:42 PM
Friday	5:07 AM	5:24 PM
Saturday	6:00 AM	6:07 PM
Sunday	6:55 AM	6:54 PM
Monday	7:51 AM	7:43 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 3, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	1:30am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Shutdown harms US economy; how much depends on length

By KEVIN G. HALL
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON—The partial shutdown of the government threatens self-inflicted harm to an anemic U.S. economy.

How much harm depends on how long the shutdown lasts and whether the bruising political battle extends to the government's debt ceiling, which needs to be lifted to avoid a default on paying creditors.

Government hiring, procurement and spending have always played important roles in the measurement of U.S. economic growth, so it follows that a halt to government operations will have a measurable effect. If the shutdown lasts a week, it could amount to about $1.6 billion in lost economic activity, according to a report Tuesday from economic forecaster IHS Global Insight.

That's based on lessons from the 1995 government shutdown, where 36 percent of the 2.20 million federal civilian non-postal workers were furloughed. Using that gauge for the current 2.15 million federal non-postal workers, about 774,000 workers would be furloughed and lose their wages, at least temporarily. "It is difficult to assess the overall impact of either a government shutdown or the failure to increase the debt ceiling, although we fear the impact of the latter far more," cautioned the report from the company's top U.S. economists.

President Barack Obama didn't miss a chance to hit this theme, citing threats to the economy during a White House speech celebrating the start of key provisions in the Affordable Care Act, dubbed Obamacare.

"We know that the last time Republicans shut down the government in 1996, it hurt our economy. And unlike 1996, our economy is still recovering from the worst recession in generations," Obama said.

As long as the shutdown is brief, the economic consequences on production and financial markets will be "modest," said forecaster Macroeconomic Advisers.

In a Sept. 25 report, the respected group projected a hit to economic growth in the period between October and December of three-tenths of a percentage point. But a longer shutdown, the report warned, "would cause larger, escalating disruptions" that hurt growth and spark volatility in financial markets.

Back in 1995, furloughed government employees were paid for time off when they returned to work. But given the budget-cutting mood in some parts of Congress, it's not guaranteed this time.

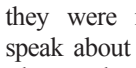
That worried Robert Wright, a U.S. Census Bureau employee since 1989, who was in a crowd of noisy protesters in front of the agency in Suitland, Md., demanding that Congress fund the government and get federal employees back on the job.

The shutdown and the GDP

The federal government shutdown could cut the U.S. gross domestic product depending on how long it lasts.

The impact of worker pay
Federal worker compensation is considered GDP produced by the federal government

• During the 1995 shutdown



36% of 2.2 million federal workers* were furloughed; that equals:

'95 **792,000**

36 percent of today's **2.15 million** federal workers would furlough:

'13 **774,000**

• Assuming an average annual per worker wage of $110,000, loss in GDP would be **$1.6 billion per week** of a shutdown

• Fourth-quarter GDP growth rate would be reduced by **0.16 percentage point**

*Non-postal civilian workers
Source: IHS Global Insight
Graphic: Judy Treible © 2013 MCT

Insurance markets open to surge of new customers

CHICAGO (AP)—Americans got their first chance Tuesday to shop for health insurance using the online marketplaces that are at the heart of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, but government websites designed to sell the policies struggled to handle the traffic, with many frustrated users reporting trouble setting up accounts.

State and federal agencies were working to fix the sites, which represent the biggest expansion in coverage in nearly 50 years. There should be time to make improvements. The open-enrollment period lasts for six months.

Administration officials said they were pleased with the strong consumer interest. At least 2.8 million people had visited the healthcare.gov website as of Tuesday afternoon, said Medicare administrator Marilyn Tavenner, whose office is overseeing the rollout of the Affordable Care Act. The website had seven times the number of simultaneous users ever recorded on the medicare.gov site.

But at most only a handful of people had been able to successfully enroll online through the federal website in that time period, according to two industry officials with knowledge of the situation. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the issue publicly. The number of those enrolled is expected grow as technicians tackle and resolve glitches.

In Obama's home state, dozens of people who came to a Champaign, Ill., public health office to sign up for coverage found computer screens around the room flashing an error message: "System is unavailable."

Kimberly Shockley—logging in from Houston, Texas—and Mike Weaver, who lives in rural southern Illinois, ran into the same glitch as many others: They could not get past the security questions while trying to set up their personal accounts through healthcare.gov.

"I'm frustrated, very frustrated," said Shockley, a self-employed CPA. She spent more than an hour trying to get the security questions to work without success. When she clicked on a drop-down menu of suggested security questions, none appeared. She then tried to create her own questions, but that didn't work either.

Weaver, a self-employed photographer, said he also ran into problems with the drop-down menus. And when they started working, he still wasn't able to set up his account.

"The first day of something that you know is going to have a lot of bugs, it's not that frustrating," he said. "If it was the last day to sign up ... then I'd be terribly frustrated."

Shockley has health insurance, but is looking for a better plan. Weaver is uninsured.

State-operated sites also experienced trouble.

Minnesota got its site running after a delay of several hours. Rhode Island's site recovered after a temporary crash. A spokesman for the New York Department of Health blamed difficulties on the 2 million visits to the website in the first 90 minutes after its launch. Washington state's marketplace used Twitter to thank users for their patience.

Exchange officials in Colorado said their website would not be fully functional for the first month, although consumers will be able to get help applying for government subsidies during that time. Hawaii's marketplace wasn't allowing people to compare plans and prices.

Nation

Dems and GOP trade blame

AP

A US Park Police officer watches at left as a National Park Service employee posts a sign on a barricade closing access to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013.

WASHINGTON (AP)—First slowed, then stalled by political gridlock, the vast machinery of government clanged into partial shutdown mode on Tuesday and President Barack Obama warned the longer it goes "the more families will be hurt."

Republicans said it was his fault, not theirs, and embarked on a strategy—opposed by Democrats—of voting on bills to reopen individual agencies or programs.

Ominously, there were suggestions from leaders in both parties that the shutdown, heading for its second day, could last for weeks and grow to encompass a possible default by the Treasury if Congress fails to raise the nation's debt ceiling. The two issues are "now all together," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

Speaking at the White House, the president accused Republicans of causing the first partial closure in 17 years as part of a nonstop "ideological crusade" to wipe out his signature health care law.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, gave as good as he got. "The president isn't telling the whole story," he said in an opinion article posted on the USA Today website. "The fact is that Washington Democrats have slammed the door on reopening the government by refusing to engage in bipartisan talks."

Both houses of Congress met in a Capitol closed to regular public tours, part of the impact of a partial shutdown that sent ripples of disruption outward—from museums and memorials in Washington to Yellowstone and other national parks and to tax auditors and federal offices serving Americans coast to coast.

Officials said roughly 800,000 federal employees would be affected by the shutdown after a half-day on the job Tuesday to fill out time cards, put new messages on their voice mail and similar chores.

Among those workers were some at the National Institute of Health's famed hospital of last resort, where officials said no new patients would be admitted for the duration of the shutdown. Dr. Francis Collins, agency director, estimated that each week the shutdown lasts will force the facility to turn away about 200 patients, 30 of them children, who want to enroll in studies of experimental treatments. Patients already at the hospital are permitted to stay.

ACROSS THE NATION

Coroner: 4 bodies inside jet that crashed near LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Forensic specialists worked to identify the remains of four people pulled Tuesday from the charred wreckage of a private jet that crashed into a hangar after landing, while federal safety investigators curtailed their work due to the partial government shutdown. The Los Angeles County coroner's office took the remains from the aircraft at Santa Monica Airport and tried to match new dental X-rays with X-rays of people believed to be aboard, Lt. Fred Corral said. That process could be completed Wednesday. Among the likely deceased were Mark Benjamin, CEO of a prominent Southern California construction company, and his son, Luke Benjamin, a senior project manager with the company.

Colo. teen pleads guilty in killing of school girl

GOLDEN, Colo. (AP)—A Colorado teen charged with kidnapping and killing a 10-year-old girl pleaded guilty Tuesday to all 15 charges against him, against the advice of his attorneys. Austin Sigg, 18, could be sent to prison for the rest of his life for the slaying of Jessica Ridgeway in Westminster nearly a year ago. Jessica was abducted while walking to school, and her disappearance panicked thousands of residents in Denver's western suburbs. Sigg also pleaded guilty Tuesday to a May 2012 attack on a 22-year-old jogger at a lake in Jessica's neighborhood. Prosecutors said Sigg entered the pleas because of overwhelming evidence against him. His trial would have started Thursday.

GOP states offer little help on buying insurance

ATLANTA (AP)—On the day consumers start perusing newly launched federal online health exchanges, Republican governors who oppose President Barack Obama's insurance overhaul are mostly sitting on their hands. But the law is going into effect without them. Thirty-six states, most of them Republican-controlled, opted to let the federal government run exchanges where consumers can shop for individual policies from private insurance firms. Consumers are getting their first opportunity on Tuesday to buy policies on the exchanges, even as the law remains at the core of congressional budget gridlock that has caused a partial federal government shutdown. The exchanges' funding isn't affected by the shutdown.

Customers First TRIPLE J

TRUCKLOAD SALE DIRECT FROM KMART

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

OPEN: Thursday and Friday 11am to 7pm • Saturday 9am to 7pm

Kenmore 3.3cu.ft. Compact Refrigerator **$179.95**

Kenmore Digital Countertop Oven **$55.95**

Kenmore Red 4-Burner Gas Grill with Side Burner **$299.95**

Essential Home Grayson 5-Drawer Dresser **$129.95**

Essential Home Amelia 5pc Dining Set **$239.95**

Kenmore 5 Cu.Ft. Chest Freezer **$319.95**

Rubbermaid 40pc Tupperware Set **$29.95**

Proctor Silex 12-cup Coffee Maker **$18.95**

Proctor Silex Blender **$27.95**

Sandra Lee 16" Roaster **$44.95**

Igloo 5-Gallon Seat Top **$26.95**

T-Fal 12pc Hard Anodized Cookware Set **$117.95**

Essential Home Bronze Traditional Floor Lamp **$49.95**

Essential Home Storage Bench **$126.95**

Essential Home 3pc Swivel Barstool Set **$99.95**

Essential Home Deluxe Task Office Chair with Loop Arms **$59.95**

Essential Home Wagner Convertible Futon Sleeper **$269.95**

Concourse 4pc Brayton Luggage Set **$79.95**

Concourse 20" Lightweight Pilot Case **$22.95**

Canon Pixma Printer MG2220 **$89.95**

Belkin N150 WiFi Router **$45.95**

HP K1500 Keyboard **$13.95**

Nerf Super Soaker Arctic Shock **$29.95**

Northwest Territory Oversized Chair 250lbs **$21.95**

Weslo Pursuit CT 2.2 Upright Bike **$175.95**

South Eagle High Velocity Fan **$32.95**

South Eagle Table Fan **$21.95**

Just Kidz My First Mini Cycle **$16.95**

Step 2 Push Around Buggy **$55.95**

Disney Mickey Mouse or Minnie Mouse Table & Chair Set "Your Choice" **$55.95**

Customers First TRIPLE J FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS SAIPAN

Come and visit us at the Triple J Wholesale Store

We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

For more info, please call:

322-0430

Pacific Express · American Express · MasterCard · VISA · JCB · Discover Network

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Asia

Elderly woman killed in Myanmar sectarian violence

THANDWE, Myanmar (AP)—Buddhist mobs killed a 94-year-old Muslim woman and torched more than 70 homes as sectarian violence again gripped Myanmar's Rakhine state despite a visit by President Thein Sein, officials and residents said.

With attacks reported in several villages on the outskirts of Thandwe, where tensions have been mounting for days, the number of causalities could rise.

More than 700 rioters, some swinging swords, took to the streets in Thabyuchaing, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of the coastal town, on Tuesday afternoon, police officer Kyaw Naing said.

An elderly Muslim woman died from stab wounds in the clashes that followed, the officer said, putting the number of houses set on fire at between 70 and 80.

Smoldering buildings—and several injured Buddhist Rakhines—were seen by The Associated Press in Shwe Hlay. A police officer, speaking on condition of anonymity because he did not have authority to talk to the media, said Linthi also was hit by rioters.

Both villages are about 17 kilometers (10 miles) from Thandwe.

The visit by Preisdent Thein Sein to the divided region was his first since sectarian violence broke out more than a year ago.

AP

In this Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013 photo, an injured Rakhine man, right, is helped to go to hospital in Thandwe, Rakhine State, western Myanmar.

He arrived in the Rakhine state capital of Sittwe under tight security early Tuesday and was scheduled to travel to several more towns, including Maungdaw to the north and, on Wednesday, Thandwe to the south, said a senior official in the president's office, declining to be identified because he was not authorized to speak about the sensitive trip.

He said Thein Sein "is going there to help find a long-term solution to the problem" and would meet with government officials and residents.

A heavy security presence failed to deter the attackers, however, with witnesses saying soldiers and police made no efforts to step in. A 6 p.m. curfew was imposed.

Sectarian clashes that began in Rakhine in June 2012 have since morphed into an anti-Muslim campaign that has spread to towns and villages nationwide. So far, more than 240 people have been killed and more than 140,000 have fled their homes, the vast majority of them Muslims.

ADB slashes Asia growth forecast to 6 pct.

HONG KONG (AP)—The Asian Development Bank cut its economic growth forecast for developing Asia on Wednesday, citing weakness in region's two largest economies, China and India, and jitters over plans to scale back U.S. stimulus that destabilized financial markets.

The Manila-based lender said it expects the region's emerging economies to grow by 6 percent this year, down from 6.6 percent predicted in April.

The ADB also cut its 2014 growth forecast, to 6.2 percent from 6.7 percent.

"Developing Asia is challenged to sustain its growth momentum," the bank said in an update to its Asian Development Outlook report, which covers 45 developing or newly industrialized countries in Asia and the Pacific but excludes Japan.

The ADB said growth in China is softening after authorities took action to rein in credit growth and the shadow banking industry, part of a wider effort to reorient the economy away from exports and investment and toward more sustainable domestic consumption.

"Slower growth is the price of structural reform for the longer term," the report said.

China's economy, the world's second biggest, is now expected to expand 7.6 percent, down from 8.2 percent forecast earlier this year.

The country's communist leaders are trying to reverse a painful, extended slowdown that dragged growth down to a two-decade low of 7.5 percent in the second quarter.

In India, growth is slowing because industry and investment are hindered by poor infrastructure and long delays in structural reforms, the bank said in cutting its forecast to 4.7 percent growth from 6 percent.

The bank also lowered its Southeast Asia forecast because of lackluster exports and moderating investment in Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia, though stronger than expected growth in the Philippines partially offset the decline.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Train hits minibus in Indonesia, killing 13

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A passenger train slammed into a minibus that was carrying families of hajj pilgrims on Indonesia's Java island on Tuesday, killing 13 people and severely injuring six others, police said. West Java police spokesman Col. Martinus Sitompul said the collision occurred at an unguarded crossing in Jenkok village in Indramayu district. The minibus was packed with 19 people who were returning from sending off hajj pilgrims. He said four children and the driver of the minibus were among the fatalities. The train was traveling from Jakarta to the Central Java town of Solo.

China hunts for 58 missing fishermen in storm

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Chinese airplanes and boats scoured parts of the South China Sea on Tuesday looking for nearly 60 people missing after a tropical storm sank three fishing boats. In central Vietnam, people repaired homes and dragged away trees that were uprooted when Wutip slammed into the coastline late Monday. Two men were killed when a radio station antenna tower fell on them, Vietnam's disaster agency said. Another man was killed when a wall collapsed. Close to 100,000 homes were damaged. Chinese authorities say Wutip, which means butterfly in Cantonese, sank three Chinese fishing vessels Sunday in the South China Sea. On Monday, 14 people were rescued, leaving 58 still believed to be missing, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. It said 22 boats and four airplanes were combing the area for survivors.

World

'About 1,000 Iraqis killed in Sept.'

BAGHDAD (AP)—An Iraqi sheik cradled his grandson's tightly wrapped body Tuesday, his face grim and his eyes downcast, trailed by men bearing the coffin of the infant's mother.

The mother and son were killed the day before by a bombing in Baghdad—two among nearly 1,000 Iraqi lives lost to violence in September. The heartbreaking image, captured in an Associated Press photo, illuminates the human tragedy behind the numbers.

Sectarian bloodshed has surged to levels not seen in Iraq since 2008. More than 5,000 people have been killed since April, when a deadly government raid on a Sunni protest camp unleashed a new round of violence that showed al-Qaida in Iraq is still strong despite years of U.S.-Iraqi offensives against the terror group.

At least 979 people—887 civilians and 92 soldiers and national policemen—were killed in September, a 22 percent increase from the previous month, the U.N. mission in Iraq said Tuesday. Baghdad was hit hardest, with 418 violent deaths. The U.N. also reported that 2,133 people were wounded nationwide in the relentless car bombings, suicide attacks and shootings.

The spike reversed a brief decline to 804 in August after the death toll reached 1,057 in July, the highest since June 2008 when 975 people were killed.

By comparison, 3,718 civilians were killed in December 2006, the deadliest month of the war, according to a U.S. military tally.

AP

Mahmoud Abdel-Rahman carries the dead body of his 11-month-old grandson, Latif, who was killed along with his mother on Monday when their house collapsed in a car bomb attack, while mourners carry the coffin of the mother, Hasnah Abdel-Rasul, during their funeral in the Shiite holy city of Najaf, 100 miles (160 kilometers) south of Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013.

Zimbabwe: Poachers poison 91 elephants

HWANGE, Zimbabwe (AP)—The stench of rotting elephant carcasses hangs in the air in western Zimbabwe, where wildlife officials say at least 91 elephants were poisoned with cyanide by poachers who hack off the tusks for the lucrative illegal ivory market.

Massive bones, some already bleached by the blistering sun in the Hwange National Park, litter the landscape around one remote watering hole where 18 carcasses were found. Officials say cyanide used in gold mining was spread by poachers over flat "salt pans," also known as natural, mineral-rich salt licks. They say lions, hyenas and vultures have died from feeding on contaminated carcasses or drinking nearby.

"The magnitude of what we are witnessing today is much higher than what has occurred previously," environment minister Saviour Kasukuwere told reporters on a trip to the park Monday.

Cyanide attacks the bloodstream, kills almost instantly and causes rapid decomposition. Most of the poisoned elephants died in the past month. The chemical is commonly used by illegal gold panners to separate the metal from surrounding ore and is easily available.

Nine suspected poachers have been arrested this month after the biggest, most brutal poaching spree on record. Three men were sentenced to up to 16 years in jail. The Hwange park, stretching over 14,000 square kilometers (5,400 square miles), has one of the highest concentrations of elephants in Africa.

Kasukuwere, newly appointed to the environment ministry after disputed elections won by longtime President Robert Mugabe in July, said Zimbabwe will intensify efforts to campaign among world nations—including Asia, where there is the highest demand for ivory—to curb a trade declared illegal by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Chemical weapons experts in Syria to start mission

BEIRUT (AP)—Wading into the world spotlight, international inspectors arrived in Damascus on Tuesday to begin the monumental task of overseeing the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons in the middle of a civil war.

The inspectors from a Netherlands-based chemical weapons watchdog have around nine months to complete their mission that calls for finding, dismantling and eliminating President Bashar Assad's estimated 1,000-ton arsenal.

Their task has been endorsed by a U.N. Security Council resolution that calls for Syria's chemical stockpile to be scrapped by mid-2014. The deadline is the tightest that the experts from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons have ever faced.

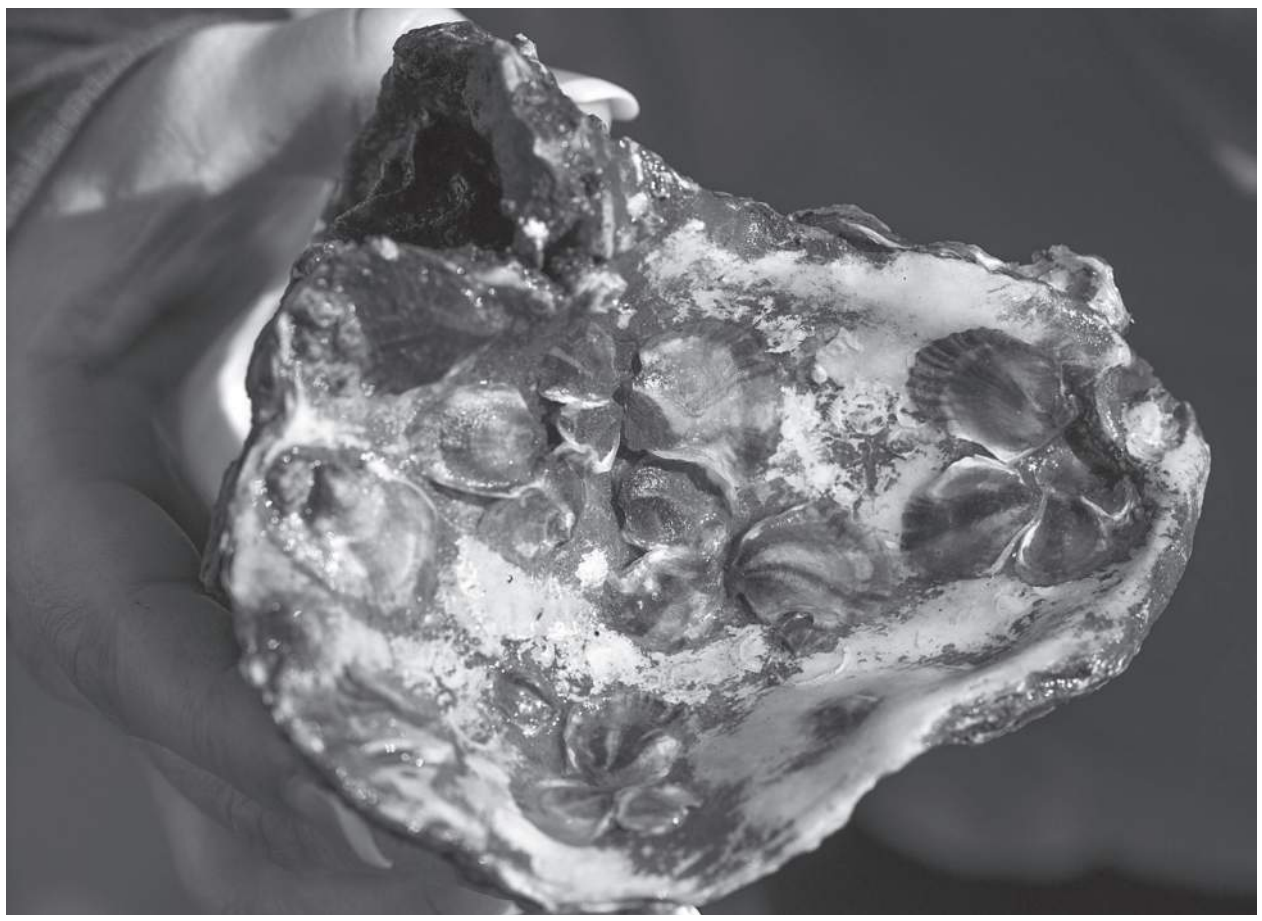
An advance team of 19 inspectors and 14 U.N. staff members arrived in Damascus late Tuesday afternoon in a 19-vehicle convoy escorted from the Lebanese border by two Syrian Foreign Ministry representatives. The experts set up a logistics base for its immediate work, the U.N. said in a statement.

Experts at The Hague, where the OPCW is based, said Sunday the inspectors' priority is to reach the first milestone of helping Syria scrap its ability to manufacture chemical weapons by a Nov. 1 deadline, using every means possible.

The destruction mission could include smashing mixing equipment with sledgehammers, blowing up delivery missiles, driving tanks over empty shells or filling them with concrete, and running machines without lubricant so they seize up and become inoperable.

Some of the inspectors will be double-checking Syria's initial disclosure of what weapons and chemical precursors it has and where they are located. Others will begin planning the logistics for visits to every site where chemicals or weapons are reported to be stored.

Focus



SEATTLE TIMES/MCT

A handful of healthy oyster seed from Goose Point Oyster Co.'s Hawaiian hatchery takes root on an adult oyster shell. When young oysters reach this age, they are strong enough to withstand the Northwest's increasingly corrosive watersóat least for now.

SEA CHANGE:

Ocean acidification drives oyster farmers to Hawaii

By CRAIG WELCH
THE SEATTLE TIMES

HILO, Hawaii—It appears at the end of a palm tree-lined drive, not far from piles of hardened black lava: the newest addition to the Northwest's famed oyster industry.

Half an ocean from Seattle, on a green patch of island below a tropical volcano, a Washington state oyster family built a 20,000-square-foot shellfish hatchery.

Ocean acidification left the Nisbet family no choice.

Carbon dioxide from fossil fuel emissions had turned seawater in Willapa Bay along Washington's coast so lethal that slippery young Pacific oysters stopped growing. The same corrosive ocean water got sucked into an Oregon hatchery and routinely killed larvae the family bought as oyster seed.

So the Nisbets became the closest thing the world has seen to ocean acidification refugees. They took out loans and spent $1 million and moved half their production 3,000 miles away.

"I was afraid for everything we'd built," Goose Point Oyster Co. founder Dave Nisbet said of the hatchery, which opened last year. "We had to do something."

Oysters started dying by the billions along the Northwest coast in 2005, and have been struggling ever since. When scientists cautiously linked the deaths to plummeting ocean pH in 2008 and 2009, few outside the West Coast's $110 million industry believed it.

By the time scientists confirmed it early last year, the region's several hundred oyster growers had become a global harbinger—the first tangible sign anywhere in the world that ocean acidification already was walloping marine life and hurting people.

Worried oystermen testified before Congress. A few hit the road to speak at science conferences. Washington's governor at the time, Chris Gregoire, established a task force of ocean acidification experts, who sought ways to fight this global problem locally.

The eight years of turmoil the Nisbet family endured trying to outrun their corroding tides offered them a unique perch from which to view debate over CO2 emissions.

"I don't care if you think it's the fault of humans or not," Nisbet said. "If you want to keep your head in the sand, that's up to you. But the rest of us need to get it together because we're not out of the woods yet on this thing."

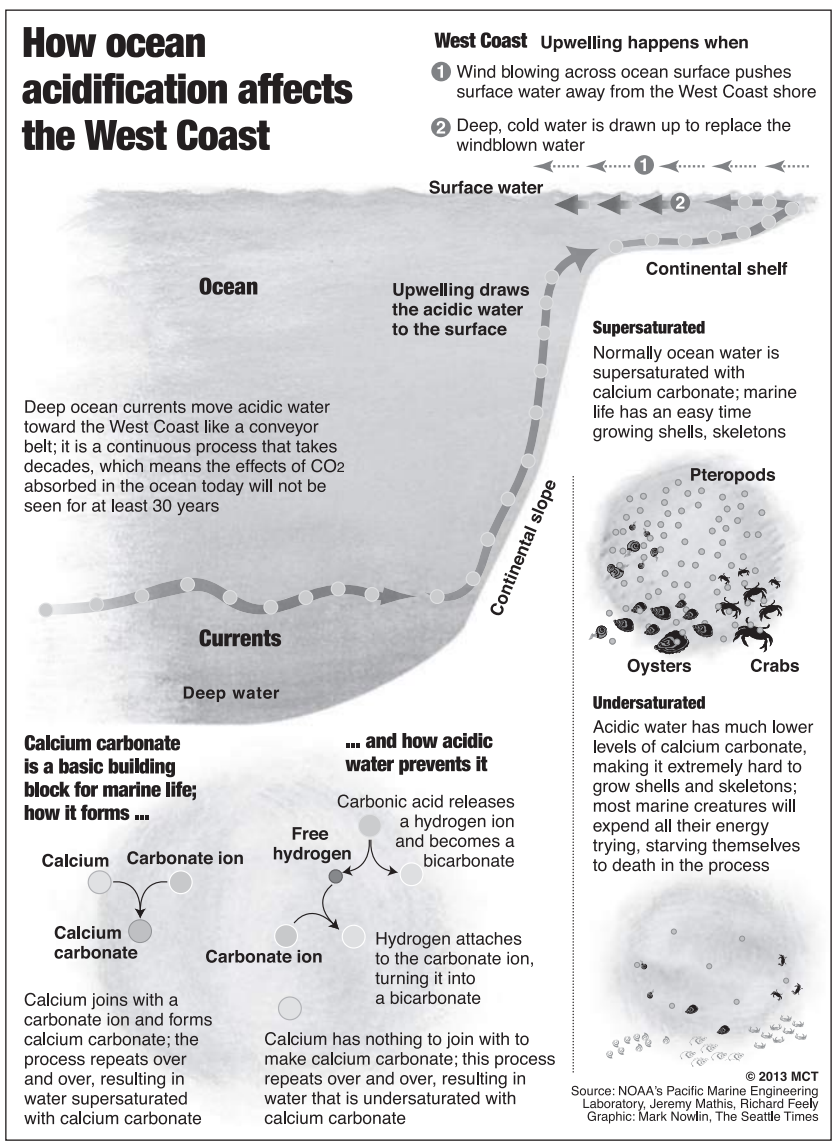
The industry in Willapa Bay, a shallow estuary, and Puget Sound employs about 3,200 people and produces one-quarter of the nation's oysters.

The Nisbets bought 10 acres of tidelands near Bay Center in 1975 and built their business over decades, one market at a time.

Sometimes Dave Nisbet's daughter Kathleen, now 27, came along. She sipped a baby bottle and ate cookies while riding the dredge with her father. The Nisbets eventually pieced together 500 acres of tidelands and hired 70 people.

ON THE WEB

To view the entire SeaChange project, go to www.seattletimes.com/seachange


How ocean acidification affects the West Coast
West Coast Upwelling happens when
1 Wind blowing across ocean surface pushes surface water away from the West Coast shore
2 Deep, cold water is drawn up to replace the windblown water
Surface water
Ocean
Upwelling draws the acidic water to the surface
Continental shelf
Continental slope
Deep ocean currents move acidic water toward the West Coast like a conveyor belt; it is a continuous process that takes decades, which means the effects of CO2 absorbed in the ocean today will not be seen for at least 30 years
Currents
Deep water
Supersaturated
Normally ocean water is supersaturated with calcium carbonate; marine life has an easy time growing shells, skeletons
Pteropods
Oysters
Crabs
Undersaturated
Acidic water has much lower levels of calcium carbonate, making it extremely hard to grow shells and skeletons; most marine creatures will expend all their energy trying, starving themselves to death in the process
Calcium carbonate is a basic building block for marine life; how it forms ...
Calcium
Carbonate ion
Calcium carbonate
Calcium joins with a carbonate ion and forms calcium carbonate; the process repeats over and over, resulting in water supersaturated with calcium carbonate
... and how acidic water prevents it
Free hydrogen
Carbonic acid releases a hydrogen ion and becomes a bicarbonate
Carbonate ion
Hydrogen attaches to the carbonate ion, turning it into a bicarbonate
Calcium has nothing to join with to make calcium carbonate; this process repeats over and over, resulting in water that is undersaturated with calcium carbonate
© 2013 MCT
Source: NOAA's Pacific Marine Engineering Laboratory, Jeremy Mathis, Richard Feely
Graphic: Mark Nowlin, The Seattle Times

For a long time, business was good—until, overnight, it suddenly wasn't.

It's hard to imagine now how far CO2 was from anyone's mind when the oysters crashed.

In 2005, when no young oysters survived in Willapa Bay at all, farmers blamed the vagaries of nature. After two more years with essentially no reproduction, panic set in. Then things got worse.

By 2008, oysters were dying at Oregon's Whiskey Creek Hatchery, which draws water directly from the Pacific Ocean. The next year, it struck a Taylor Shellfish hatchery outside Quilcene, which gets its water from Hood Canal. Owners initially suspected bacteria, but shellfish died even when it wasn't present.

Each spring, the Nisbets put an order in with Whiskey Creek until the mid-2000s, when that option vanished.

"The hatchery had a long waiting list of customers and no seed, and we had a small window of time to get it into the bay," Dave Nisbet recalled. "They had nothing."

Whiskey Creek hatchery closed for weeks at a stretch. Production at Taylor Shellfish was off more than 60 percent. The entire industry was on the brink. Oyster growers from Olympia to Grays Harbor worried that in a few years' time they would not be able to bring shellfish to market.

Dave Nisbet made frantic calls, but could not find another source.

In 2008, Kathleen Nisbet fretted about the prospect of laying off people her family had employed since she'd been in diapers.

And no one, anywhere, could tell them what was wrong.

Then the oyster growers met the oceanographers.

Dick Feely, with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, by the early 2000s was noting a dramatic change off the West Coast.

Low pH water naturally occurred hundreds of feet down, where the colder water held more CO2. But that corrosive water was rising swiftly, getting ever closer to the surface where most of the marine life humans care about lived.

In 2007, Feely organized a crew of scientists to measure and track that water from Canada to Mexico.

"What surprised us was we actually saw these very corrosive waters for the very first time get to the surface in Northern California," he said.

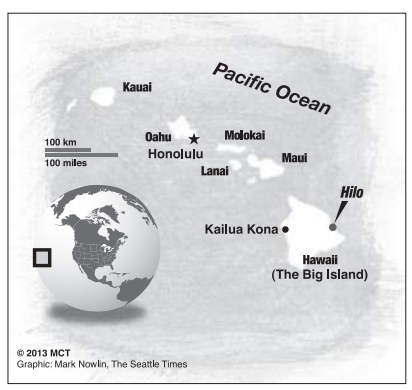
That hadn't been expected for 50 to 100 years. And that wasn't the worst of it.

Because of the way the ocean circulates, the corrosive water that surfaces off Washington, California and Oregon is the result of CO2 that entered the sea decades earlier. Even if emissions get halted immediately, West Coast sea chemistry—unlike the oceans at large—would worsen for several decades before plateauing.

It would take 30 to 50 years before the worst of it reached the surface.

Feely published his findings in 2008.

He explained to the oyster farmers that when north winds blew, deep ocean water was drawn right to the beach, which meant this newly corrosive water probably got sucked into the hatchery. That same water also flowed into the Strait of Juan de Fuca and made its way to Hood Canal.



Environment

Experts set threshold for climate-change calamity

By TONY BARBOZA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—The world's leading climate scientists have for the first time established a limit on the amount of greenhouse gases that can be released before the Earth reaches a tipping point and predicted that it will be surpassed within decades unless swift action is taken to curb the current pace of emissions.

The warning was issued Friday by a panel of U.N.-appointed climate change experts meeting in Stockholm.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimated that once a total of 1 trillion tons of carbon dioxide are emitted into atmosphere, the planet will exceed 3.6 degrees of warming, the internationally agreed-upon threshold to the worst effects of climate change.

"We've burned through half that amount" since preindustrial times, Michael Oppenheimer, a professor of geosciences and international affairs at Princeton University who reviewed the report and is a co-author of the panel's upcoming report on the effect of climate change, said in an interview. "Because the rates of emissions are growing, it looks like we could burn through the other half in the next 25 years" under one of the more dire scenarios outlined in the report.

Other scenarios show that the threshold will be reached later this century.

The finding constitutes a warning to governments to cut emissions of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas, which is generated by the burning of fossil fuels, industrial activity and deforestation.

Calling climate change "the greatest challenge of our time," panel co-chair Thomas Stocker said humankind's fate in the next 100 years "depends crucially on how much carbon dioxide will be emitted in the future."

In the report, the panel said it is 95 percent certain that human activity is the dominant cause of the global warming observed since the 1950s. That is up from 90 percent six years ago.

"Human influence has been detected in warming of the atmosphere and the ocean, in changes in the global water cycle, in reductions in snow and ice, in global mean sea level rise, and in changes in some climate extremes," the report said.

The report is the panel's fifth major assessment since 1990. It reaffirms many of the conclusions of past reports, but with greater confidence.

"The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, sea level has risen and the concentrations of greenhouse gases have increased," the panel wrote in a 36-page summary of its findings, released Friday. "Each of the last three decades has been successively warmer at the Earth's surface than any preceding decade since 1850."

The panel's full 2,500-page report will be published Monday.

The report also addressed the so-called hiatus, a slowdown in the rise of surface temperature that has been observed over the last 15 years. That slowing of the increase in temperatures has been seized on by skeptics to cast doubt on the science of climate change.

The report touches the subject only briefly, saying that temperatures fluctuate naturally in the short term and "do not in general reflect long-term climate trends."

Brenda Ekwurzel, a climate scientist for the Union of Concerned Scientists, said the slowdown is more like a speed bump, a result of heat being trapped and circulated through the ocean and atmosphere in different ways rather than a fundamental change in the climate. She said surface temperature is just one of many expressions of climate change, including sea level rise, melting ice and ocean acidification.

"The global average temperature is one kind of a thermometer, but an even bigger thermometer is the ocean, which is absorbing most of the excess heat that climate change is creating," she said.

The report updates predictions of how temperature and sea level are expected to rise over the century.

The panel now expects sea level to rise globally by 10 inches to 32 inches by century's end, up from the rise of 7 inches to 23 inches it projected in 2007.

Those figures now include the contribution of massive ice sheets in Antarctica and Greenland that are creeping toward the ocean as they melt. The panel failed to account for that variable in its previous report, prompting criticism from the scientific community that its previous sea level rise projections were too low.

The panel also lowered the bottom of the range of temperature increase expected over the long term if carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere double. The planet would warm by at least 2.7 degrees even if aggressive action is taken to cut emissions, but temperatures could rise as much as 8.1 degrees in other scenarios.

"If no action is taken, no way will you be in the lower band," Michel Jarraud, secretary-general of the U.N.'s World Meteorological Organization said at the Stockholm meeting, which was webcast.

Roger Pielke Jr., a professor of environmental studies at the University of Colorado and a leading critic of the climate science establishment, praised the core science of the report, but said many of its conclusions, including the idea of a carbon dioxide limit, are neither new or surprising. He criticized the panel for not doing more to acknowledge uncertainty over how climate change will express itself in the near term.

"By not addressing the issues associated with the 'hiatus' in warming the IPCC missed an opportunity to clarify this issue, and also has guaranteed continuing allegations from its critics that is has dodged this issue," Pielke said.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry called the report "yet another wake-up call."

"Once again, the science grows clearer, the case grows more compelling, and the costs of inaction grow beyond anything that anyone with conscience or common sense should be willing to even contemplate," he said in a statement.

Environmental activists greeted the report with calls for government action.

"This IPCC climate science assessment tells us in the strongest possible terms that we ignore climate change at our great peril." Earthjustice President Trip Van Noppen said in a statement.

The assessment was written by more than 800 scientists from around the world. The panel does not conduct its own research, but collects and summarizes thousands of peer-reviewed scientific studies.

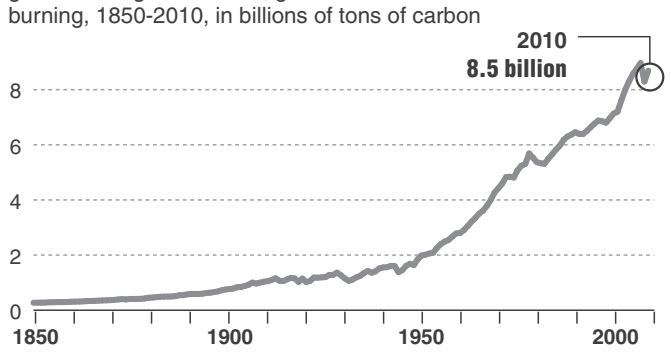
The report will inform negotiations toward a new international climate treaty to cut greenhouse gas emissions that is supposed to be reached by 2015.

A landmark report

A new report by the United Nations' climate panel says that scientists are virtually certain that human activity is the "dominant cause" of global warming, which is due primarily to higher concentrations of greenhouse gases.

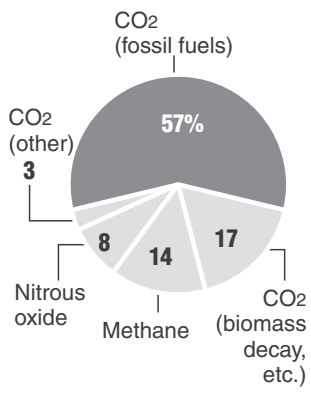
Trend in carbon emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO_2) accounts for nearly four-fifths of all greenhouse gas emission; global CO_2 emissions from fossil fuel burning, 1850-2010, in billions of tons of carbon



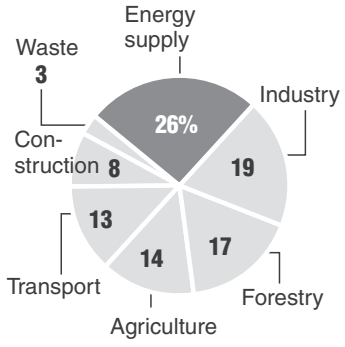
Global greenhouse gas emissions, by gas

Percent of total emissions



Global greenhouse gas emissions, by source

Percent of total emissions



Source: U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, International Energy Agency
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2013 MCT

Free movie Tapped discusses bottled water industry, trash

Editor's Note: Per advisory from DEQ, the screening will depend on whether the federal government's partial shutdown will end by then. If the shutdown is still in effect by Friday, the screening will be cancelled.

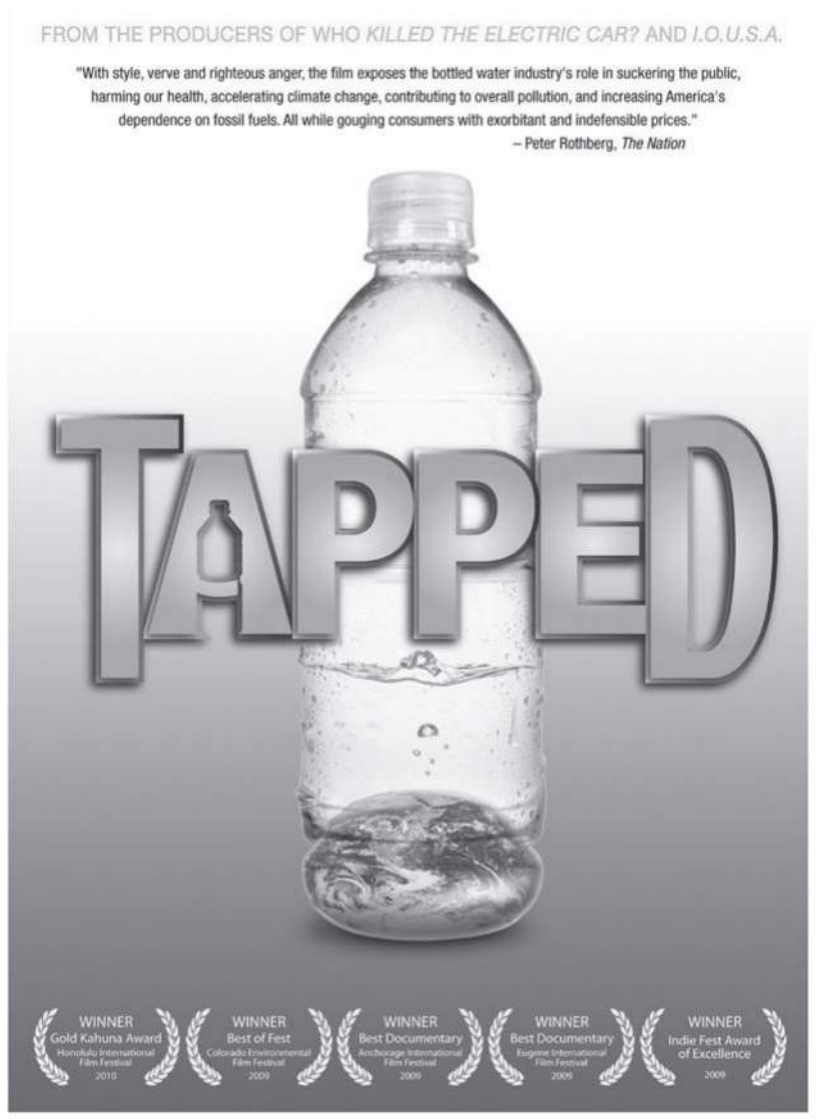
First Friday Films presents the new film *Tapped* on Friday, Oct. 4, at 6:30pm at American Memorial Park about bottled water, why we love it and why we shouldn't love it.

The film asks, "Is access to clean drinking water a basic human right, or a commodity that should be bought and sold like any other article of commerce?" The documentary is a behind-the-scenes look into the unregulated and unseen world of the bottled water industry—an industry that aims to privatize and sell back the one resource that ought never to become a commodity: our water. *Tapped* is a portrait of the lives affected by the bottled water industry, from the plastic production to the ocean in which so many of these bottles end up.

Before the film, Jose M. Kaipat from the Division of Environmental Quality's Safe Drinking Water Branch will give a brief presentation about drinking water and bottle usage on Saipan. Kaipat has been at DEQ for 18 years in various capacities and can speak first-hand about the regulations and concerns about drinking water sources in the CNMI. As the chief coordinator of DEQ's Monthly Cleanup Brigade, Kaipat also knows the damaging environmental impacts of our beverage containers after the drinks are consumed.

First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management, and the Humanities Council with support from other organizations and individuals. These films are sponsored by the Division of Environmental Quality. As always, our film events are free and open to the public. This event will run about 75 minutes.

For more information about First Friday Films, email fffsaipan@gmail.com or check out www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. ***(DEQ)***


FROM THE PRODUCERS OF WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR? AND I.O.U.S.A.
"With style, verve and righteous anger, the film exposes the bottled water industry's role in suckering the public, harming our health, accelerating climate change, contributing to overall pollution, and increasing America's dependence on fossil fuels. All while gouging consumers with exorbitant and indefensible prices."
– Peter Rothberg, The Nation
TAPPED
WINNER Gold Kahuna Award Honolulu International Film Festival 2010
WINNER Best of Fest Colorado Environmental Film Festival 2009
WINNER Best Documentary Anchorage International Film Festival 2009
WINNER Best Documentary Eugene International Film Festival 2009
WINNER Indie Fest Award of Excellence 2009

Life & Style

Strap on your computer, wearable tech taking off

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The digital domain is creeping off our desktops and onto our bodies, from music players that match your tunes to your heart beat, to mood sweaters that change color depending on your emotional state—blue for calm, red for angry. There are vacuum shoes that clean the floor while you walk and fitness bracelets, anklets and necklaces to track your calorie burning.

AP

Claire Collins is given a demonstration of Optinvent ORA-S augmented reality glasses at the GLAZED Conference, a conference for the business of wearable technology, in San Francisco, Monday, Sept. 30, 2013.

"Everyone agrees the race is just beginning, and I think we're going to see some very, very big leaps in just the next year," said tech entrepreneur Manish Chandra at a wearable technology conference and fashion show in San Francisco Monday that was buzzing with hundreds of developers, engineers and designers.

Wearable technologies have long been a sideshow to mainstream laptop and smartphones, but this year Google's glasses and rumors of Apple's iWatch are popularizing the field. Analysts forecast swift growth. Last year the market for wearable technology—encompassing everything from hearing aids to wristband pedometers—totaled almost $9 billion. That should climb to $30 billion by 2018, said analyst Shane Walker at IHS Global Insights.

Humans have been wearing technology for centuries, from strapped-on compasses to pocket watches. The current surging industry is centered in the Silicon Valley and San Francisco Bay area, where mostly smaller startups design their products locally and have them manufactured in Asia to take advantage of cheap labor. Monday's conference was one of several focusing exclusively on wearable technology in recent years.

As wearable technologies proliferate, humans will need to adapt, said Georgia Tech professor Thad Starner. He advises Google on its glasses, which are lightweight frames equipped with a hidden camera and tiny display that responds to voice commands. Starner has worn his for several years.

"We're talking about paradigm changing devices," said Starner. "Capabilities that people haven't thought of before."

He said that, unlike computers and tablets that people engage with, wearable computers are designed to be in the background, secondary to the wearer's attention.

"It seems like a paradox, but when you pull the technology closer to your body, there's a seamless interaction, it's more an extension of yourself," he said.

But there are sure to be cultural and social issues. Google Glass—and some emerging competitors—have raised concerns of people who don't want to be surreptitiously videoed or photographed. And what about interacting?

At Monday's conference, attendees slipped on monitors that measured their heart rates and temperatures to reflect whether they really were enjoying a movie, and shot photos through their Google Glasses of Vibease, the world's first wearable vibrator controlled by smartphones, promising long distance intimacy.

"Do you really want a touch screen on the front of your t-shirt? Is it socially acceptable to be poked all over your body for somebody to use your wearable computer?" asked Geneviève Dion, who directs a fashion and technology lab at Drexel University.

The answer, for some, is no.

In a newly released survey from Cornerstone OnDemand, 42 percent of workers said they would not be willing to strap on wearable tech for their jobs, with older and more traditional employees more reluctant than their counterparts. The survey polled 1,029 Americans aged 18 and over in August, and had a 3.1 percent margin of error.

And then there's an issue of bandwidth, said Ritch Blasi, a consultant with SVP-Comunicano who researches the wearable technology market. At this point, there simply isn't enough network service to support universal and constant wireless use, he said. But that too will catch up.

"It almost makes you think everyone is going to turn into a cyborg," he said, referring to a fictional, prosthetic-laden high tech comic book superhero.

And will they?

"When you look at the world and everything people are doing?" said Blasi, pausing for a moment. "I think the answer to that is yes."

Now at your library: Streaming movies, music

SEATTLE (AP)—There's a new source to stream movies and other digital content, and it's not a tech company with tens of thousands of titles. It's something more familiar, and might even be just down the street: the public library.

Often thought of as stodgy brick-and-mortar havens for bibliophiles, libraries are trying out a new service that allows patrons to check out streaming movies, music, TV shows and audiobooks from anywhere they want.

It works similarly to Netflix: Through an app on a tablet or a browser on a personal computer, users can peruse dozens of movies and click on a film to "borrow" it. The content starts streaming, for free.

While libraries are already loaning e-books, the move to streaming is part of a larger shift for them to remain relevant in a digital world where more people are using tablets and smartphones.

Libraries are "meeting patrons where they want to access content," said Kirk Blankenship, Electronic Resources Librarian for Seattle Public Libraries, which is using the service called Hoopla.

The service, from Ohio-based Midwest Tape, LLC, is also being used in Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Topeka, Kan., and several others towns and cities nationwide. Hoopla launched in full in May with 20 library systems.

As of early September, there are about 220,000 people using the app, said Michael Manon, Hoopla's brand manager. The goal is to reach 100 library systems by year's end.

Libraries have always been a source of audiovisual entertainment. A 2012 Pew Research Center survey found that among patrons 16 years old and older, 40 percent visited libraries to borrow movies. Another 16 percent borrowed music.

In the Seattle area, DVDs and CDs of popular titles can have queues of hundreds of people waiting to check them out. E-books have been offered for years now.

"Public libraries do not have the budgets to compete with Amazon, Comcast, and Netflix and will not be able to pay a premium for online content," Blankenship said, adding that DVDs will continue to be the best way to offer popular movies.

Updating and maintaining that physical collection takes time and money. It also means libraries have to pay for the media upfront, while Hoopla allows them to pay per time a title is borrowed.

Those costs depend on the type of media and its release date, and range from 99 cents to $2.99. Seattle libraries have allocated $10,000 a month limit so far for Hoopla items and patrons are limited to 20 checkouts a month, Blankenship said.

That limit may change, depending on demand and how usage grows. Hoopla's launch won't affect the stocking of physical DVDs at library branches for the time being, Blankenship said.

Unlike physical copies, there are no waits for patrons who want to borrow a streaming movie.

For Seattle resident and library patron Jamie Koepnick-Herrera, Hoopla has joined her other streaming services such as Netflix, which she uses for movies, and Hulu, which she uses to watch current seasons of television shows. On Hoopla, she found the yoga videos she was looking for.

"I think it provides a great free source of entertainment for families who can't afford to get a movie for family night or for teenagers to have access to that album they can't afford," Koepnick-Herrera said.

Hoopla's movie and television collection is impressive in its numbers: About 3,000 titles.

It is, however, chockfull of B-movies. Some of the newer movies weren't exactly hits in the theaters, such as Keanu Reeves' "Generation Um" and Lee Daniels' "The Paperboy," which preceded his hit "The Butler."

Message of Appreciation

Segundo Tudela Sablan
35th Death Anniversary

Josefina Duenas Sablan
15th Death Anniversary

James. Duenas Sablan
47th Death Anniversary

We, the family, are humbled beyond measure by the overflow of prayers, love and generosity we received during the five-day anniversary memorials for our loved ones. Where there was once profound sorrow, there is now healing and immense appreciation. We thank those who shared their wonderful memories allowing us to look back with warmth and even laughter. We also want to extend our appreciation to Fr. Ryan, Tan Ko, the cathedral choir, the family choir (Gora), Herman's Catering, Shirley Wilson's Catering and our very loyal former employees who all made it to the eucharistic celebrations and tirelessly extended their help once again to our family. Peace, love & joy to all.

Thank you

Jean D. Sablan, Ron D. Sablan, Wm. D. Sablan, Judi (Ynna) S. Robles, Angela Sablan Yamashita & their families

Bullock calls 'Gravity' her 'best life decision'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sandra Bullock says making the lost-in-space movie "Gravity" with director Alfonso Cuaron was "the best life decision I think I ever made."

Cuaron coaxed Bullock into playing an astronaut coping with disaster at the International Space Station after she had intentionally taken a break from Hollywood following her Oscar-winning performance in "The Blind Side," subsequent divorce and then adoption of son Louis.

"What I got out of it personally outweighed everything else," Bullock said in an interview. "I'm glad I got to meet the human being—Alfonso—that led me to say, 'OK, let me investigate if I can even do this.'"

Bullock's priority had been spending time with her son, who is now 3, and Cuaron assured her that she wouldn't miss anything while shooting the film, which also features George Clooney and lands in theaters on Friday.

"'It has to be a great time for my son. I can't miss him. If I miss him, I will be of no use to you,'" Bullock recalled telling Cuaron and producers. "'You know, he's just learning how to walk. So guess what's going to happen? I have to go! He's taking steps!' But they made it so (nice for Louis). It was a family film. Everyone had kids. So everyone knew the value of that. So they said, 'If we make it amazing for him right where you are, will you be OK?' And I said, 'yeah.'"

Now that "Gravity" has debuted to positive reviews and enthusiastic responses at the Venice and Toronto film festivals, it's likely to gobble up even more time as Bullock again hits the awards circuit. (Critics say she's a lock for a best actress Oscar nomination, given how much the movie rests on her shoulders.) She's OK with that—to a point.

AP

Actor George Clooney, left, actress Sandra Bullock and director Alfonso Cuaron pose together at the premiere of "Gravity" at the AMC Lincoln Square Theaters on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, in New York.

"Guess what's more important than being here right now? I know it's you, but it happens to be the school run this morning," she told a reporter, laughing. "Because we have picture day on Friday. So as long as I can do those things that to me are very important and make me happy, I can be here all day, but I have my ins and outs. ... And that's the way it was filming. I was like, I will be here 100 percent as long as I know that little dude is perfectly content."

For much of the "Gravity" shoot, Bullock was hooked up to innovative rigs to simulate weightlessness—sometimes in complete darkness—on a soundstage in London. She was mostly the only actor on set, making it even more difficult to convey the emotions of her character, medical engineer Ryan Stone.

"I would feel sorry for her all the time," said Cuaron, who co-wrote the script with his son Jonas and spent four years developing the film using new technology for weightless effects.

But the 49-year-old actress talks about the process, in which she had to carefully move her body to match lighting and cameras, as if it were therapy.

"You're frustrated because you can't accomplish something. There's no control. I was always out of my element," she said. "I learned so much on a daily basis. And I just went wow, isn't that funny how being miserable every day physically and then emotionally because of work then turns—makes you open to whatever is coming your way."

"Gravity" will be trailed into theatres by two other nearly solo survival stories. Robert Redford is lost in the Indian Ocean after his boat capsizes in "All Is Lost" and Mia Wasikowska treks across the Australian wilderness in "Tracks." They follow the success earlier this year of the lifeboat adventure "Life of Pi."

Asked about the trend, Bullock said the films question the value of today's constant connectivity. Her answer also hints at her own state of mind during her very public 2010 divorce from reality TV star Jesse James.

"As connected as we are with technology, it's also removed us from having to have human connection, made it more convenient to not be intimate," Bullock said. "And then when adversity hits, what do we do? We isolate. And in a world that's so alive, we find ourselves more alone than ever. How is that? So that's probably why all of these things are springing up. When you have adversity and you have pain, you never feel more alone than you do at that moment. And you can be surrounded by hundreds of thousands of people."

REGAL CINEMAS
Bargain Shows ( ) ★Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply
REFILLABLE POPCORN BUCKET $3 REFILLS ALL YEAR LONG!
SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7
Near Joeten Superstore in San Jose MP
1-800-FANDANGO 1484#

GRAVITY 3D [CC] (PG-13) 1000 PM

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 [CC] (PG) 705 PM

RUNNER RUNNER [CC,DV] (R) 1000 PM

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 3D [CC] (PG) (445 PM)

PRISONERS [CC,DV] (R) (400 PM) 720 PM

THE FAMILY [CC] (R) (435 PM) 735 PM

RIDDICK 3D [CC] (R) (430 PM) 730 PM

ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG) 715 PM

ONE DIRECTION EXTENDED 3D [CC] (PG) (440 PM)

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER [CC] (NR) (410 PM) 710 PM

PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC] (PG) (425 PM) 725 PM

Times For 10/03 © 2013www.REGmovies.com

'Gravity,' 90 minutes of terrifying beauty

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP NATIONAL WRITER

MOVIE REVIEW

In an age when we're able to consume content so many different ways—and that's a good thing, mostly—let's declare right now that there's only one truly correct way to experience "Gravity," Alfonso Cuaron's thrilling new space film.

In a theater. On a huge screen. And in 3-D. Yes, even for all you 3-D naysayers—we hear you, but this is the movie you HAVE to see in 3-D.

And please, no matter how many months or years pass, don't watch this film on your little smartphone.

If you've seen the heart-pounding trailer, you'll know that Sandra Bullock and George Clooney play astronauts who experience a traumatic accident in space. You may also know about the extraordinary special effects used to create this weightless cinematic world—so extraordinary that many are calling the film a landmark of the sci-fi genre.

But what you can't know, until you're in the theater, is just how much you'll feel like you're up there in space, feeling its vastness, perhaps even feeling cold. And how you might let yourself forget, momentarily, that this movie wasn't shot on location. And how you'll ask yourself, how did they DO this? And how you'll then forget the question, because you'll be caught up once again in this 90-minute thrill ride.

AP

This film image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Sandra Bullock in a scene from "Gravity."

Cuaron's filmmaking prowess is no secret. His 2007 "Children of Men" was a masterful evocation of a bleak futuristic world where women can no longer conceive, and warring gangs struggle for control of the dying human race.

But while that film teemed with people, "Gravity" has but a few. It aims to evoke the full terror of true solitude—indeed, Bullock is alone much of the time.

And though it doesn't take place on Earth, "Gravity" is in a way closer to our reality—not a futuristic world, but one that exists today, though you'd have to be on a space mission to get there.

If you were, you'd want to be with Matt Kowalski (Clooney), the experienced mission commander, cocky and totally in charge. He jokes easily with Mission Control (voiced by Ed Harris, in a nice nod to "Apollo 13" and "The Right Stuff") while spacewalking with a new jet pack, but when disaster strikes, he's the guy you want nearby.

Bullock is Ryan Stone, a medical engineer installing a new system on the Hubble telescope. She's on her first mission, and feeling rather queasy, when suddenly a massive field of debris comes hurtling by, sending Stone spiraling out of control.

All this and more is established in a single, stunning, 13-minute opening shot. And Cuaron is just getting started.

While we'll reveal no more plot, it's worth noting that the film's one flaw stems from an effort to give Bullock's character more of a backstory than necessary, perhaps an overly sentimental one. But overall, the actress finds that difficult balance between frailty and tenacity. And Bullock's grounded presence—pun intended—is a huge plus here.

The script is by Cuaron and his son, Jonas, but kudos are also due cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki and visual effects supervisor Tim Webber, for their seamless blend of live action, animation and CGI. As for the 3-D, never once does it feel anything less than totally integrated with the film's purpose.

As the credits roll, you may find yourself thinking about real space launches you've watched, or watching man walk on the moon, and remembering that feeling of awe at how man ever developed the technology to explore space in the first place.

But save a bit of movie-lover's awe, too, for Cuaron, who has many of us feeling closer to space than we've ever felt before.

"Gravity," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "intense perilous sequences, some disturbing images and brief strong language." Running time: 90 minutes. Four stars out of four.

MPAA definition of PG-13: Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

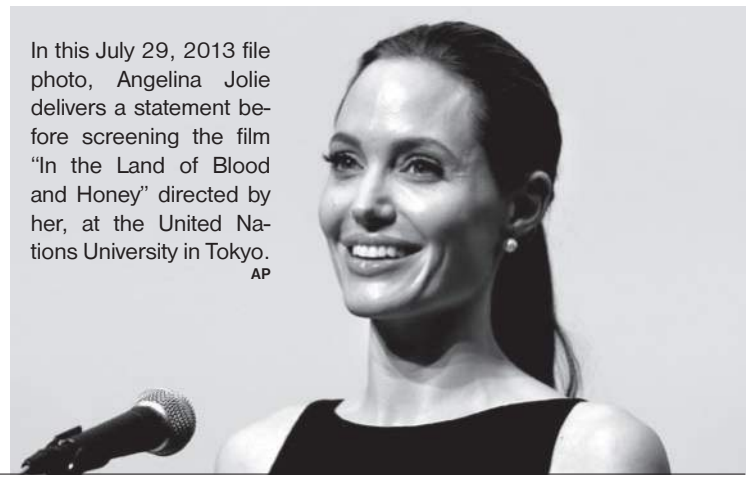
Angelina Jolie to direct 'Unbroken' in Australia

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Universal Pictures has announced that Angelina Jolie is in Sydney, Australia, to direct the survival saga "Unbroken." The film will tell the true story of Lou Zamperini, a World War II hero and track star who ran in the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

The movie, to be released in December 2014, is based on Laura Hillenbrand's book "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption," which chronicles Zamperini's life.

The former Olympian spent a harrowing 47 days afloat in the Pacific Ocean following the 1943 crash of his U.S. military plane. He spent the following two years as a prisoner of war after washing up behind Japanese enemy lines.

"Unbroken" will star Jack O'Connell as Zamperini. The screenplay is being fine-tuned by Joel and Ethan Coen.



In this July 29, 2013 file photo, Angelina Jolie delivers a statement before screening the film "In the Land of Blood and Honey" directed by her, at the United Nations University in Tokyo.
AP

George Clooney hopes government shutdown ends soon

NEW YORK (AP)—George Clooney knows the country is going through a tough time with the government shutdown.

But the actor is optimistic that "cooler heads will prevail" and let things get back to normal.

He applauded U.S. Rep. Peter King (R-NY) as one of the "guys on the right," trying to get the government back up and running.

"I know for a fact that there's a lot of guys on the right, Peter King, for instance, and some people like that, who are also doing the best they can to stop this from happening or to put an end to it," Clooney said.

He added: "You just hope that it happens soon."

King has spoken out against Tea Party Republican Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

Clooney made the comments at the New York premiere of his new film, "Gravity."

Vt.'s Captain Phillips says he never empathized

WILLISTON, Vt. (AP)—The ship captain being played by Tom Hanks in a Hollywood movie said on Tuesday before a benefit screening near his home that he never felt empathy for the Somali pirates who hijacked his vessel and took him captive four years ago.

"That never entered my mind," Richard Phillips said in an interview. "We were always adversaries. I thought it was important to make sure we both knew we were adversaries in that. I thought that was important for me and my survival. There was no Stockholm syndrome."

"Captain Phillips" was screened in Williston ahead of its national release in theaters on Oct. 11. The Paul Greengrass docudrama was adapted from the captain's memoir about the April 2009 hijacking.

Hanks met several times with Phillips at his home in Underhill, in northwestern Vermont, to help prepare for the role. "Captain Phillips," which debuted at the New York Film Festival on Friday, is expected to be a major contender in Hollywood's awards season.

Phillips spent five days as a hostage of pirates on a lifeboat, where he was beaten, tied up and threatened before he was rescued by U.S. Navy SEALs.

AP

Captain Richard Phillips, the real-life ship captain being played by Tom Hanks in the docudrama "Captain Phillips," right, enjoys a laugh with sister-in-law Lea Coggio, before a screening of "Captain Phillips," on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013 in Williston, Vt.

The ordeal started when the pirates chased down and boarded the Maersk Alabama. The crew hid below deck in what Phillips, who remained above, called "a giant life-and-death game of hide-and-seek." The ship had been warned about piracy before the attack.

Phillips was sent out in a lifeboat with the pirates, who told him they thought they might get a $2 million ransom if they could get him to land. Phillips said that the day before he was rescued his mental condition had deteriorated to the point that he didn't care if he died; he just wanted the ordeal to be over.

Ex-Miss Russia's NY drug case dropped after rehab

NEW YORK (AP)—A smiling former Miss Russia said Tuesday she has learned from her mistakes after a drug case against her was dismissed since she spent two sometimes rocky years in treatment.

"I've learned my lesson," said Anna Malova as she left a Manhattan court, wearing a black suit, black stockings and spiked-heel ankle boots. "I look at the world with clear eyes."

Malova, who finished in the top 10 in the 1998 Miss Universe pageant, was accused of stealing prescription pads from doctors, writing herself prescriptions for pain and anti-anxiety drugs, and filling or trying to fill them at pharmacies 14 times, sometimes even after initial arrests in February 2010 and May 2010.

Manhattan Criminal Court Judge Richard Weinberg on Tuesday dropped all those charges, plus a clothing-store shoplifting case. Malova's lawyer said the theft also stemmed from drug addiction.

The city special narcotics prosecutor's office wanted Malova's treatment extended another three months. But the judge decided Malova had met requirements to get the charges dismissed by going through rehabilitation.

"You can be very proud of yourself in getting your life back," Weinberg said but warned: "If you find yourself failing, you'll be back before me."

Malova, 42, went into inpatient drug rehabilitation in June 2011, in a process courts call "diversion" to treatment.

She was initially supposed to be in the program for about a year. But she was jailed for about a month in late 2011 after authorities said she caused problems at the rehab center. Then she got into trouble again in March 2012, when prosecutors said she had been hoarding pills to try to get high while in treatment.

Her lawyer, Robert Gottlieb, has said those problems stemmed from Malova's drug dependency.

She eventually was allowed to leave rehab for court-supervised outpatient treatment. In arguing Tuesday that she needed more time in the outpatient program, prosecutors noted that she still takes an anti-anxiety drug and doesn't have a job, normally a requirement for completing a rehab program.

Bollywood actor granted 2-week break from prison

MUMBAI, India (AP)—Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt was temporarily released Tuesday from an Indian prison where he is serving time for illegal possession of weapons linked to the 1993 terror attack in the financial capital of Mumbai.

The 54-year-old actor said he would spend his two weeks of leave, granted by prison authorities for good behavior, at home with his family.

"I am a law-abiding citizen," he told reporters after leaving Yerawada Central Jail in Pune, a city near Mumbai. "I will go back at the given time."

Dutt became popular for his Hindi film roles as a reformed thug who follows the teachings of pacifist freedom fighter Mohandas Gandhi. According to industry estimates, he is currently involved in projects worth at least $20 million.

He was convicted for illegal possession of weapons linked to the 1993 terror attack, when 13 powerful bombs packed into cars and scooters exploded over a two-hour period across Mumbai. The bombs killed 257 people and injured 720.

He has said he knew nothing about the bombing plot, and wanted the guns to protect his family—his mother was Muslim and his father Hindu—after receiving threats during the religious riots that preceded the bombings.

The Supreme Court in March confirmed his conviction, but reduced his sentence to five years from six, including 18 months already served.

Husband's anxiety threatens to push wife over the edge

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my best friend, "Blake," for two years. A year ago he started having panic attacks, so I made an appointment for him with his doctor. After checking him for everything, including heart failure, the doctor diagnosed him with anxiety.

Since his diagnosis, Blake is scared to leave the house. I have been working two jobs to make ends meet because he says he "can't work." This has taken a toll on our marriage. We have three kids and a lot of bills.

Blake is on medication and has tried many different ones, but they aren't working. All he talks about is his anxiety and every little ache or pain. He thinks he's going to have a heart attack.

I am fed up with it, while he says I just "don't understand anxiety." Sometimes I think he's making his anxiety worse. I don't know what to believe or what to do. Any suggestions?

STRESSED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR STRESSED: Yes, I do have one. Your husband should be seen by a licensed mental health professional (psychologist) who works with a psychiatrist. He may need more than medication to help him conquer his anxiety disorder. He might do better with a combination of talk therapy in addition to his meds.

Please urge your husband to do this because the aches, pains and anxiety he's experiencing may seem like they're all in his head to you, but they're real to him. It could save your marriage.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and daughters and I enjoy a beach trip every year. With our busy lives, it's the one time in the year we are able to be together and relax. Although we have invited friends and family over the years to join us, I have never invited my sister. She keeps bringing it up and portrays me as the snobby sister.

The truth is she has two undisciplined children whom I can't stand to be around. I suspect she just wants to join us so she can pawn her kids off on me while she and her husband relax.

My mother is now telling me I'm selfish and not being a good sister. Must I sacrifice my one week a year at the beach to make my sister feel better? Please advise.

IT'S MY VACATION

DEAR MY VACATION: Considering that you have invited friends and family to join you, but not your sister, I can see how she might feel snubbed. Has no one told her your reason for not inviting her and her family to join you? If not, someone should, because it might motivate her to assert more control over her children. If she takes offense, however, you will be off the hook because SHE will no longer want to socialize with YOU.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: We have a housecleaner once a month. Last month, I offered her some grapefruit from our tree and she took six. This month, she helped herself to all of the fruit that was left on the tree! She didn't ask permission, and she didn't tell me she had done it. I happened to see her put it into her car.

I consider this to be stealing, but my husband does not. Because she took the fruit without permission and without telling me, do you consider it stealing?

"ANITA" IN FLORIDA

DEAR "ANITA": The woman may have assumed you wouldn't mind if she took the fruit because you had offered it to her the month before. (Did you say she could take only six?) Rather than call this stealing, I would call it a misunderstanding. Clear it up by telling your housecleaner that you want nothing removed from your premises unless you have SPECIFICALLY told her she may have it.

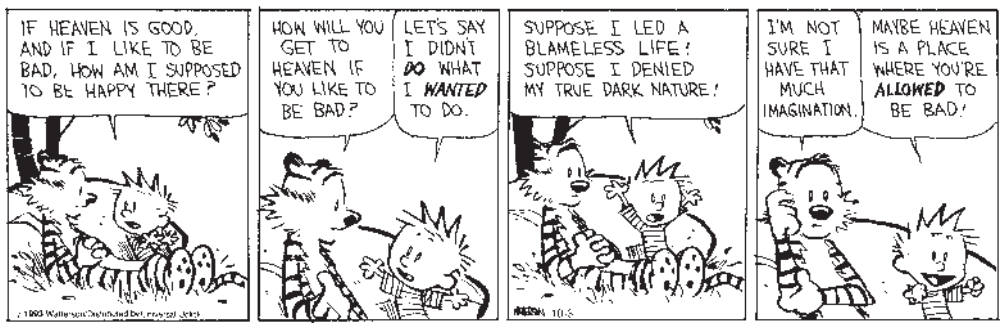
■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IF HEAVEN IS GOOD, AND IF I LIKE TO BE BAD, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BE HAPPY THERE?
HOW WILL YOU GET TO HEAVEN IF YOU LIKE TO BE BAD?
LET'S SAY I DIDN'T DO WHAT I WANTED TO DO.
SUPPOSE I LED A BLAMELESS LIFE! SUPPOSE I DENIED MY TRUE DARK NATURE!
I'M NOT SURE I HAVE THAT MUCH IMAGINATION.
MAYBE HEAVEN IS A PLACE WHERE YOU'RE ALLOWED TO BE BAD!

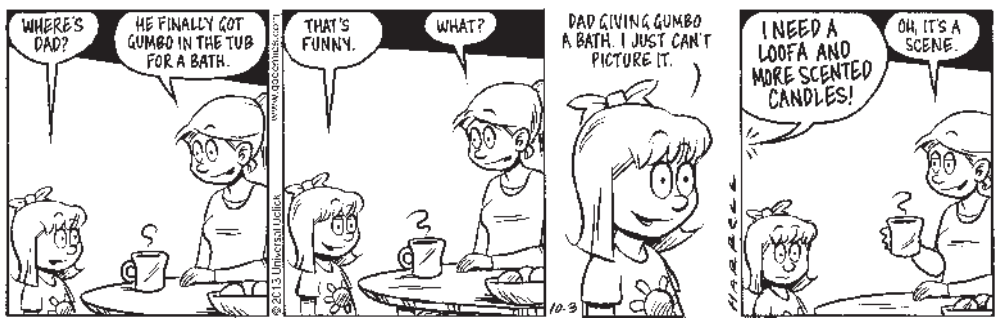
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

KNOW WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT DIETING, GARFIELD?
YOU WALK DOWN THE STREET...
AND PEOPLE YELL "HEY THERE, SLENDER PERSON!"
IT MUST BE SOME SECRET SOCIETY!
JIM DAVIS 10-3

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHERE'S DAD?
HE FINALLY GOT GUMBO IN THE TUB FOR A BATH.
THAT'S FUNNY.
WHAT?
DAD GIVING GUMBO A BATH. I JUST CAN'T PICTURE IT.
I NEED A LOOFA AND MORE SCENTED CANDLES!
OH, IT'S A SCENE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

You're A HYPOCHONDRIAC.
WHAT CAN You Do FOR Me?
I'M SENDING You TO A SPECIALIST.
A DOCTOR WHO SPECIALIZES IN HYPOCHONDRIA?
HE ONLY THINKS HE'S A DOCTOR.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

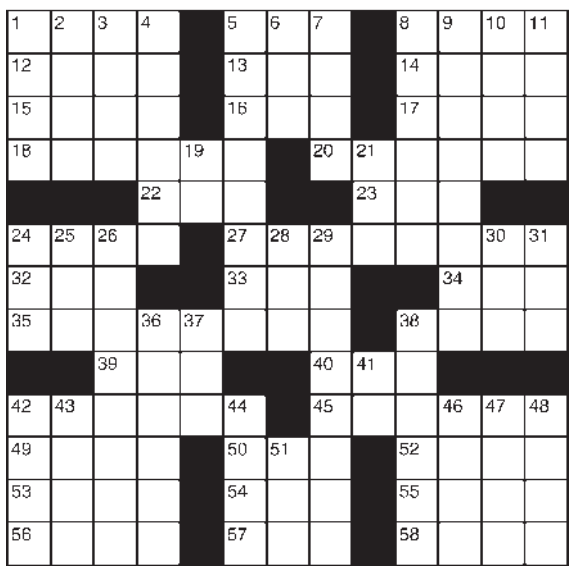
ACROSS
1 Bivouac
5 Central
8 Gloating, maybe
12 Culture medium
13 Guitar's kin
14 Greek vowel
15 Legislation
16 Born
17 Target
18 Godlike
20 Makes harmonious
22 Blond shade
23 Reaction to pyrotechnics
24 Flop on stage
27 Vaccinate
32 Lawyers' org.
33 PBS supporter
34 Promptly
35 Hermetic
38 Curved molding
39 Barracks bed
40 "Brain" of a PC
42 Same old story
45 State-of-the-art
49 Les États- —
50 Midafternoon, in a way
52 Exceptional
53 Power
54 Rouen refusal
55 Addict
56 Nervous
57 Yank
58 Information

DOWN
1 Joker, for one
2 Malaria symptom
3 African nation
4 Kind of house
5 Snacking on
6 Eisenhower
7 Sandra and Ruby
8 Enlist
9 Being a freeloader
10 Mormon state
11 Guys' companions
19 Exists
21 Second person
24 31-Down's remark
25 Sapporo sash
26 Paraders' activity
28 "Doesn't thrill me"
29 Like accessories, often
30 "Sesame Street" Muppet
31 Ram's mate
36 Warm and cozy
37 "Monty Python" opener
38 Pass on the track
41 Circle ratio
42 Discourteous
43 Oklahoma city
44 Clue
46 Relaxation
47 Staff
48 His and —
51 Debtor's letters

Solution time: 25 mins.

W	R	E	N	■	M	A	J	■	J	E	S	S
H	I	R	E	■	O	R	A	■	O	P	A	L
E	P	I	S	O	D	I	C	■	E	I	R	E
T	F	N	T	H	■	■	K	F	Y	P	A	D
■	■	■	L	O	F	T	■	A	S	H	■	■
F	R	E	E	■	L	E	A	S	■	A	C	E
L	I	P	■	Z	I	P	P	Y	■	N	A	Y
O	B	I	■	O	I	I	S	■	B	Y	I	E
■	■	L	A	N	■	D	E	A	L	■	■	■
S	T	O	L	E	N	■	■	D	O	E	R	S
U	R	G	F	■	F	P	I	D	U	R	A	L
D	O	U	R	■	A	R	C	■	S	O	S	A
S	T	E	T	■	R	O	Y	■	E	S	P	Y

Yesterday's answer 10-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashlee Simpson, 29; Seann William Scott, 37; Neve Campbell, 40; Gwen Stefani, 44.

Happy Birthday: Plan and put everything in its place. Revisit the past, tie up loose ends and prepare to move forward. Consider what you want and how you would like to change your situation at work and at home. Listen to what's being offered, but don't be too quick to help someone else get all the perks and recognition. Strive for equality. Your numbers are 3, 7, 16, 21, 25, 36, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Just because you are a doer doesn't mean you should let people take advantage of you. Making promises for the wrong reasons will lead to frustration. Do what will benefit you, not someone else. Set a high standard for future encounters. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Apply pressure if you want something from someone. It may not be the way you do things under normal conditions, but you mustn't allow anyone to get in the way of the goals you are striving to reach. Romance will improve your day. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Learn as you go. Create your own unique style and elaborate to impress clients or those who can influence your professional future. Protect against minor illness or injury. You need to be healthy to reach your goals. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't let your mood ruin your plans or your day. Look at the big picture and set your sights on places you want to visit or projects you want to pursue. Don't let jealousy and possessiveness hurt a relationship that is important to you. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take the initiative to find out exactly what's going on. You cannot fix a problem unless you fully understand the situation. Ask questions, remain calm and be prepared to adapt to whatever change is necessary. Visit a familiar destination. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Jump in and offer a helping hand. Meeting new people or reconnecting with someone from your past will lead to interesting conversations and valuable information. Don't let anger stand between you and achieving your goals. Let bygones be bygones. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Call in favors and connect with people you have worked with in the past. Follow through with a work-related project that will bring in extra cash. Instead of fighting change, see where it leads. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Look, see and do. Focus on home, family and learning all you can in preparation for what you want to do next. Travel to destinations that provide you with knowledge, and explore the relationships that interest you. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Look at your financial situation and make adjustments to the way you live in order to fit your budget. Don't let emotional matters cost you time or money. Adjust to whatever you face and keep moving. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Tidy up unfinished business. Cut your losses and secure your position. Protect your reputation and explore new possibilities. Greater opportunities for relationships are apparent. Make choices based on your needs as well as what's being offered. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll have trouble making a decision or coming to an agreement with those you deal with. Collect your thoughts and revisit your options. Change will turn out to be beneficial once the process begins. Avoid lending or borrowing. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Protect against injury or trying to do too much at once. Discipline and careful plans will bring you satisfaction and success. Expand your friendships with people who can offer you a different perspective. A mini vacation will ease your stress. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining and persuasive. You are unique and versatile.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8		2			5		
			1		9	2		4
1	2							
	3						1	2
				7				
8	7						5	
							7	3
9		7	4		6			
		2			1		6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	2	5	9	3	8	1	4	7
1	3	7	4	5	6	2	9	8
8	4	9	2	1	7	6	3	5
7	8	3	1	6	9	4	5	2
9	5	6	8	4	2	7	1	3
4	1	2	3	7	5	8	6	9
5	6	1	7	8	3	9	2	4
2	7	4	5	9	1	3	8	6
3	9	8	6	2	4	5	7	1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/03

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ZUCCHINI Solution: 7 letters

D	S	R	W	E	T	S	E	F	S	H	N	T	B	E
E	E	L	E	M	L	K	T	A	O	T	O	C	R	S
F	I	D	I	W	A	B	U	E	A	O	O	O	A	R
F	T	G	D	C	O	C	A	R	A	O	D	O	I	E
U	T	R	N	E	E	L	R	T	D	M	L	K	S	T
T	A	A	O	P	R	A	F	S	E	S	E	E	E	T
S	P	T	R	U	G	H	K	D	I	G	S	D	S	I
D	B	I	A	O	S	I	S	E	R	C	E	O	G	R
E	R	N	N	S	N	N	D	E	F	R	U	V	R	F
L	E	N	G	T	H	W	I	S	(E)	F	O	B	E	H
G	A	C	E	R	O	K	L	F	F	(K)	O	U	E	A
N	D	G	I	L	I	I	L	L	F	I	(A)	R	N	D
A	A	A	L	U	G	L	E	I	L	U	B	(B)	P	D
S	U	E	R	H	J	S	L	E	S	S	M	A	J	S
R	Y	A	T	K	P	I	D	E	S	S	E	R	T	S

© 2013 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 10/3

Adds, Angled, Bake, Boiled, Braises, Bread, Cooked, Cubed, Dark, Desserts, Dill, Dip, Flower, Food, Fried, Fritters, Gratin, Green, Grill, Herbs, Jams, Juice, Lengthwise, Light, Muffins, Noodles, Orange, Pancake, Patties, Round, Sage, Sauce, Seeds, Shredded, Silk, Skin, Slice, Smooth, Souffles, Soup, Steamed, Stew, Stuffed, Tarragon, Vegetable, Yellow

Yesterday's Answer: Time-off

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 36, 37 or 38**, call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at: wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Teacher. Salary $5.55p/h. 3 - 5 years experience required. Call St. Joseph School at 287-7024.

EMPLOYMENT

1-SEWER $5.55 email resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at jhocelyn_d@yahoo.com

EMPLOYMENT

2-Radiology Technologist (x-ray), $10.00/hr. 1 Accountant, $11.50/hr. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC Tel. #233-4582.

WANTED TO BUY

Yan Store buy broken game consoles, laptops, tablets, Smartphone's, cameras, cracked screens, and Power Tools. Call 287-6686 or 233-6687.

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Graphic Artist – Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience as Graphic Artist. Proficient in Illustrator/Photoshop CS5.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC. Tel.# 235-1680

HOUSE FOR RENT

- Large recently renovated house
- 3 bedrooms, 2 full bath, study/exercise room
- Open designed kitchen/living room
- 2 cars garage with barbeque pit
- 2-3,000 gallon water tank
- All room (including bathroom) has ceiling fans,
- Window type aircon
- Roof newly painted with energy saving paint and newly painted exterior and all rooms inside
- House is partly furnished with new refrigerator, gas stove, and drapes

Located at Gualo Rai at a quiet, safe and secure location.
Contact 322-5547 or 322-5522

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$400-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$550/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
$450/month

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
- **Back-up Generator**
- **Air-conditioning in all rooms**
- **FREE WiFi**
- **Laundry Area**
- **Nighttime Security**
- **Ample Parking**
- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Maintenance Worker

Salary: $5.55. Must be skilled in hand and power tools to maintain landscape, tree climbing, and cleanliness of the land.
5 years work experience.
Must be trustworthy and dependable.

Contact Mr. N.E. Pangelinan at 322-4305 between 1:00PM—5:00PM.

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

WATER TREATMENT TECHNICIAN

- Must be able to perform tasks which may at first glance not appear difficult but require a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain the system.
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems.
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment and distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit.
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities
- Be familiar with the safety and life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II.
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with electricity
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques for working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with PVC
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 10/11/2013 at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS

Saipan Tribune
Over 100 food stamp vouchers on hold
Opinion
Even despots don't live forever
The flagrance of war
Focus
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
Campus Life
KagHS JROTC does well in drill competition
GCA's January forensic winners
Are you ready to Ace it?
Overdrive
Mustang Boss 302
a thrill to drive, but lacks the extras
Life&Style
Davis, Dujardin win lead honors at SAG awards
Mary Tyler Moore honored for lifetime achievement
Pastimes
SUDOKU
Sports
Rollers eyeing two trips to PH in 201
'King of Aces' on island through January

WHATZIT Solution: Actions speak louder than words

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

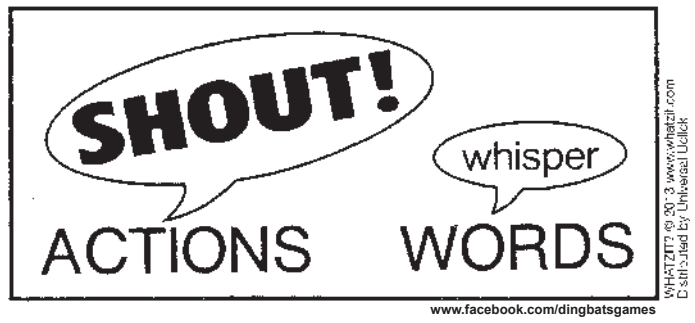
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Pirates beat Reds 6-2 in NL wild-card game

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Francisco Liriano showed up at PNC Park on Tuesday afternoon in a suit with his suitcase packed for a trip St. Louis.

The message reverberated through the Pittsburgh Pirates clubhouse. After 21 years away from the playoffs, it was time for the best story in baseball to become something more than a novelty act.

Liriano tossed seven dominant innings and the Pirates roared past Cincinnati 6-2 in the NL wild-card game Tuesday night then headed to St. Louis for the NL division series beginning Thursday. A.J. Burnett will start for the Pirates in Game 1 against Cardinals ace Adam Wainwright.

"He had the expectancy to win," Pittsburgh centerfielder Andrew McCutchen said. "When he showed up with his suit on, that got me hyped up."

St. Louis likely won't face Liriano until Game 3 at the earliest, though Liriano's teammates believe his performance set the tone for what they hope is an extended October stay.

In front of a black-clad crowd savoring its first postseason game since 1992, Russell Martin hit two home runs, Marlon Byrd also connected and McCutchen reached base four times.

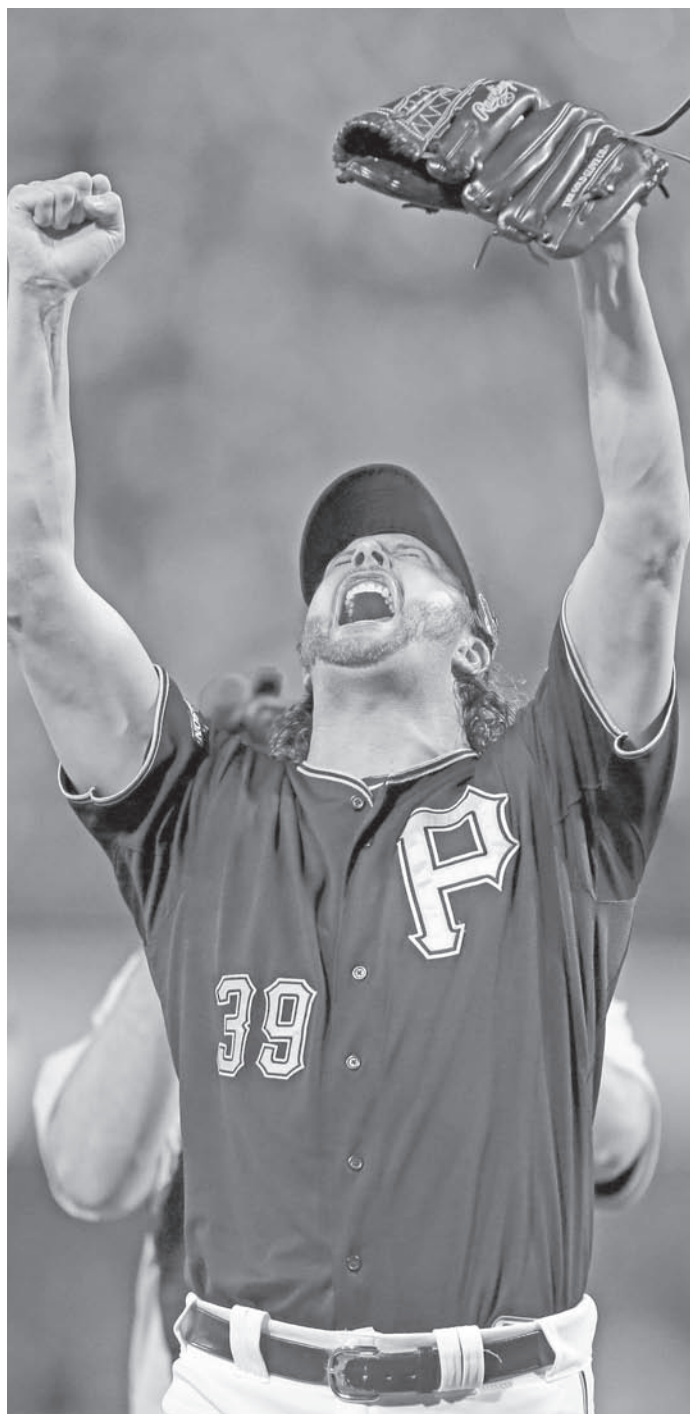
"We're for real," McCutchen said. "We're definitely for real."

You won't hear the Reds arguing after Liriano continued his mid-career renaissance. The left-hander scattered four hits, struck out five and walked one to win his first playoff game and serve notice the Pirates have no intention of going quietly after spending two decades at the bottom of the standings.

"We didn't talk about one and done, we talked about one and run," manager Clint Hurdle said. "Win one and run to St. Louis."

Cincinnati starter Johnny Cueto struggled in his third start since coming off the disabled list last month. Cueto gave up four runs in 3 1-3 innings and appeared rattled by a raucous ballpark that taunted him by chanting his name.

"He couldn't get the ball where he wanted," Reds manager Dusty Baker said. "Usually he can throw that ball through the eye of a needle. Tonight he was up."



Pittsburgh Pirates relief pitcher Jason Grilli celebrates after getting the last out against the Cincinnati Reds in the NL wild-card playoff baseball game Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, in Pittsburgh. The Pirates won, 6-2, and advanced to the division series.

The 36-year-old Byrd, acquired by the Pirates in late August from the New York Mets, celebrated the first postseason at-bat of his 12-year career - 1,250 games - by sending Cueto's fastball into the seats to give the Pirates the lead in the second inning. The shot sent another jolt through an already electric crowd, which began singing "Cue-to, Cue-to" in unison when Martin stepped in.

"This is 20 years of waiting. You're seeing it all come out in one night," Martin said. "Hopefully we can keep this atmosphere till late October."

The catcher followed with a drive into the bleachers in left field. The Reds never recovered, ending a 90-win season with a six-game losing streak. Three of those losses came at home against the Pirates in the final series of the season that determined the site of the win-or-die game.

"It's unfortunately been a bit like déjà vu," first baseman Joey Votto said. "Really disappointing."

Baker backed Cueto before the game, saying his ace "thrives on this environment." Maybe, but the right-hander never looked comfortable at a place where he has been nearly unhittable.

Cueto, who came in 8-2 at the ballpark by the Allegheny River, even lost his grip on the ball while standing on the mound as the crowd serenaded him.

A moment later, he lost his grip on the game.

Martin's 405-foot shot to left-center gave Pittsburgh a 2-0 lead and all the momentum Liriano would require.

Signed on the cheap in the offseason after a mediocre 2012 split between the Minnesota Twins and the Chicago White Sox, Liriano has been reborn in Pittsburgh. He went 16-8 with a 3.02 ERA during the regular season, his devastating slider nearly unhittable against left-handers.

The Reds proved no match. Votto went 0 for 4 with two strikeouts. Jay Bruce produced an RBI single in the fourth but Cincinnati never really threatened on a night baseball officially returned to Pittsburgh.

"It's definitely a good feeling," Martin said, "but we've still got work to do."

Shin-Soo Choo homered in the eighth, a drive to right field that was upheld by video review. It did little more than slightly delay a party 7,660 days in the making.

Pittsburgh's 94-win regular season reignited a relationship sullied by years of mismanagement and miserable play. When the gates opened two hours before the first pitch, fans - most of them dressed in black at the urging of McCutchen, an MVP candidate - sprinted to their seats in anticipation of the club's first postseason game since Atlanta's Sid Bream slid into home ahead of Barry Bonds' throw in the bottom of the ninth in Game 7 of the 1992 National League championship series.

The victory sent the Braves to the World Series and the Pirates into an abyss that took an entire generation to escape.

The first step came with victory No. 82 on Sept. 9. The next came two weeks later when a win over the Chicago Cubs assured a wild-card spot. The most thrilling yet lifted the team with the 26th-highest payroll in the majors ($73.6 million) into a showdown with baseball royalty.

The Reds, meanwhile, head into an offseason that could be eventful. Baker has led Cincinnati to the playoffs in three of the last four years but the Reds failed to advance each time. They fell to the San Francisco Giants in five games - after leading 2-0 - in the division series in 2012 and were swept in the same round by Philadelphia in 2010.

This time, they didn't even make it that far. Cincinnati spent most of the season as the third team in a three-way race with the Pirates and the Cardinals for the NL Central title. They'll end the year as the first one heading home.

"It's very difficult to come down to one game, especially the way we played," Baker said. "We got outplayed big time."

Cueto, who made three different trips to the disabled list this season with a strained lat, was pressed into service when projected starter Mat Latos discovered bone chips in his right (throwing) elbow.

On the surface, it seemed like an upgrade. It wasn't. The Pirates made it 3-0 on sacrifice fly in the third by Pedro Alvarez and Cueto was pulled when Starling Marte doubled with one out in the fourth. Marte sprinted home on local boy Neil Walker's double off reliever Sean Marshall and Walker scored on a fielder's choice by Byrd to make it 5-1.

When Martin hit a drive to left off Logan Ondrusek in the seventh, the party seemingly unthinkable for a team that lost 105 games in 2010 began. Martin's long ball marked only the second multihomer playoff game in team history. Bob Robertson hit three in Game 2 of the 1971 NLCS.

Tigers pick Scherzer to start the playoff opener

DETROIT (AP)—From All-Star starter to postseason headliner - Max Scherzer is Jim Leyland's pick again.

Detroit's 21-game winner will start the AL division series opener Friday night at Oakland, with star Justin Verlander following in Game 2. Leyland announced the Tigers' rotation Tuesday, putting an end to any speculation about who would start Game 1.

"I truly feel that I could start any one of my guys and I would feel comfortable," Leyland said. "I think that the kind of year Scherzer's had ... I'm sure somebody will find something wrong with this choice, but I think that's kind of hard to argue."

Scherzer (21-3) was baseball's lone 20-game winner this year and started for the American League in the All-Star game, which Leyland managed. But Verlander (13-12) was the 2011 AL MVP and has been one of the top pitchers in the game over the last few seasons, so Leyland could have picked either.

"It's awesome," Scherzer said. "We're going up against a great team, and I have a shot to go out there and pick up the win, first time. What more can you want?"

The Tigers won the AL Central for a third straight year, thanks to an exceptionally deep rotation. Anibal Sanchez, the AL's ERA leader, won't pitch until Game 3 against the Athletics. Doug Fister starts Game 4.

Leyland said relievers Bruce Rondon and Phil Coke will likely miss the series due to elbow problems.

Scherzer is a favorite to win his first Cy Young Award, and it's not just because of his lofty win total. He finished fifth in the AL in ERA and second in strikeouts while holding opponents to a .198 average.

No wonder Verlander was deferential to his teammate after Leyland's announcement.

"If it was me, I'd probably make the same decision," Verlander said. "Max has had a magical season, and when a guy has a season like that and everything's going right, why not ride it?"

Bartolo Colon gets ball for Game 1 of A's

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Bartolo Colon never expected to be pitching at age 40, not in the playoffs, and especially not as the Game 1 starter.

And not this well a year after being suspended 50 games for a positive testosterone test.

The veteran right-hander will get the ball for the Oakland Athletics in the opener of their AL division series against Detroit on Friday night, his first postseason appearance in eight years.

"It means so much to me. I'm 40 years old and never thought I'd be here," Colon said in Spanish. "It is more special, a lot. The first reason is because of the Oakland organization, and I thank them for bringing me here to pitch another time."

A year after Colon missed the playoffs for the A's while serving the suspension, he won 18 games and is getting another chance on baseball's big stage - in his first playoff appearance since 2005 with the Angels.

"The things he's done this year, we want him to have another four, five starts this year," catcher Derek Norris said. "Everything he gets, he has deserved. A lot of us may have been a little upset about the suspension, but he came in to spring training and he worked hard. It was noted that it was done with, we wanted to move on. He came in, worked his butt off, had one of his best years since his Cy Young year with L.A. and I don't even think any one of us in here even thinks about that stuff anymore. He's proven to us that he made a mistake, he was sorry and he apologized, and he came back and he earned back his respect throughout baseball and through all of us."

Manager Bob Melvin made the announcement before a workout Tuesday at the Coliseum, where the grounds crew worked to prepare the field two days after the NFL's Oakland Raiders played a home game.

"Ah, it's an easy one, he's been our ace all season," Melvin said of Colon. "We have that veteran presence that's going to lead us off we didn't have last year."

It sure has been $3 million well spent by general manager Billy Beane, who gave Colon another chance in 2013.

Eight months ago, Colon apologized to his teammates at the start of spring training, put his head down and went back to work.

"He felt like he needed to do that, and he got it out of the way early and has been an integral part since," Melvin said. "It really has felt like since he's been here that he hasn't missed a beat and he's been here the whole time. Very disappointing for him to miss the end of last year for the reasons that have been documented, but he's done everything that he can to be the teammate that he is again. It

Nicklaus holds court prior to Presidents Cup

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)—Even though he doesn't have an official title at the Presidents Cup, Jack Nicklaus remains a presence.

Fred Couples, captain of the U.S. side, put it all into perspective.

"We know who's in charge," he said. "Jack Nicklaus."

The winner of a record 18 major championships is an unofficial host for this week's biennial match-play competition between the U.S. and an International side.

On Tuesday he discussed his pride over the course he designed, Muirfield Village, becoming the first to host a Ryder Cup (1987), a Solheim Cup (1998) and a Presidents Cup (in addition to the annual Memorial Tournament).

"Obviously, that's pretty special," said the 73-year-old Columbus native. "We are the only ones who can say that."

Nicklaus was a four-time captain of the Presidents Cup, which has been dominated by the Americans. A similar thing was happening in the older Ryder Cup until the Europeans upset the U.S. side at ... Muirfield Village.

Nicklaus, as a veteran of elite match play competitions and as an ambassador of the game, addressed the course, the art of pairing players in matches, pressure on the International team to be competitive and, of all things, attending a hockey game.

- Nicklaus said he knew he had to lengthen the 18th hole at Muirfield Village when one of the longest hitters on the PGA Tour, Robert Garrigus, approached him at the 2012 Memorial.

"Garrigus came in here last year and he says, `Jack, remember I drove it up to 76 yards from the hole last year?'" Nicklaus said. "I said I remembered. He says, `I drove it to 64 yards today.' I wanted to wring his neck."

Now the par-4 hole stretches another 45 yards to almost 500 yards. Long hitters can no longer just drive over the nine bunkers along the right side of the fairway. Instead, they'll have to deal with a black walnut tree 305 yards off the tee then hit a long, uphill approach to a hard, fast, tilted green.

"You have to play a very significant shot in," he said.

Asked how he decided pairings when he was a captain in both the Ryder and Presidents Cups, Nicklaus said he left it up to the team.

"I'd ask all the guys at the beginning of the week, `Who would you like to play with?' Or, `Who wouldn't you like to play with?'" he said. Then he would try to pair players with friends and not with enemies, if at all possible.

Jack Nicklaus responds to a question during a news conference at the Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, in Dublin, Ohio.

At the same time, if a player wanted to play against someone, he would try to accommodate them.

"Couples asked me to give him Vijay (Singh) one match. I remember I had (Phil) Mickelson) ask for (Angel) Cabrera," Nicklaus said.

At Royal Melbourne in 1998, Tiger Woods requested playing Greg Norman in singles.

"So my goal was to get Norman for him," Nicklaus said.

He traded picks with International captain Peter Thomson until he was able to secure Woods vs. Norman.

"I walked out and got the pairings and Norman said, `Why did you do that to me?' And I said, `Hey, you're not on my team!'" Nicklaus said. "We all got a big laugh out of that."

Woods had the last laugh with a 1-up victory on Sunday.

The U.S. is 7-1-1 in the Presidents Cup and has won the last four matches easily.

The Internationals could turn the tide at Muirfield Village, much like the Europeans did there in the Ryder Cup.

The U.S. team includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, Jason Dufner, Zach Johnson, Webb Simpson and Keegan Bradley - all major-championship winners.

Woods, who has won the Memorial five times, would like nothing better than to win the Presidents Cup, which gets under way on Thursday, on Nicklaus' course.

"It would be fun," he said. "It would be fun to win it in front of the home fans."

Captain Nick Price's International side has Angel Cabrera, Ernie Els, Adam Scott, Charl Schwarzel, Louis Oosthuizen - and several relatively obscure players yet to make their mark on the world stage.

"The teams this year are probably skewed a little stronger toward the American side," Nicklaus said. "We hear about the American players because they are here every week. They have stepped up and done a good job.

"But I think that goes in cycles. You know, four years from now, the Americans might be begging for mercy."

Nicklaus has been chosen to drop the ceremonial first puck for the NHL opener of the Columbus Blue Jackets when they play the Calgary Flames on Friday night.

"First of all, I've never seen a puck dropped. I've never heard the phrase until about two weeks ago," he said, laughing. "I don't know how far you drop it from. I don't know what you're supposed to hit and who you're not supposed to hurt with it. So I'll find out on Friday night.

"I need to learn something; I need to broaden my horizons."

Els paves the way for South Africans

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)—Ernie Els remembers them as being a big part of his junior golf foundation in South Africa.

He referred to Louis Oosthuizen and Charl Schwartzel as leaders on his junior team that traveled the country, with strong voices and a game to back it up. Oosthuizen went on to win a British Open at St. Andrews, and Schwartzel won the Masters.

Branden Grace was another youngster who came through his foundation, a kid from the Garden Route with raw power who needed some polish.

Grace was perched on a sand dune at Fancourt in fading light 10 years ago watching Els, his hero, make a tense 6-foot par putt against Tiger Woods to end the Presidents Cup in a tie.

"That is when I knew I wanted to play golf," Grace said.

Now they're together on the same International team at the Presidents Cup. It's a dream for Oosthuizen and Grace, and it's a bit uneasy for the Big Easy.

"We just kind of ... blended," Els said Tuesday after a day of team pictures and practice at Muirfield Village. "They're pros now. They were juniors and then they were amateurs and now we're professionals and now we're playing together. It's very weird. It's hard to explain.

"Louis and Branden and Charl, I've known them since they were so young," he said. "And now they're playing on the big stage. It's quite nice."

Oosthuizen, whose swing is regarded as one of the best in golf, is making his debut and happy to do so. He missed the past three months with pain in his lower leg, back and neck and only returned to competition last week at the Dunhill Links in Scotland.

Oosthuizen and Schwartzel were on the wrong end of a bad haircut Monday night, providing more than a few laughs in the International team room.

Then, they played together against Els and showed that there might be plenty of fight from this team that looks outmatched on paper.

"They won all the money today, the two little rascals," Els said, choosing his words carefully in front of the cameras. "We had a ton of money we played for and they won the most money. Maybe they can grow their hair with that."

The matches start Thursday at the course Jack Nicklaus built, the third time Muirfield Village has hosted an international competition - The Ryder Cup in 1987, the Solheim Cup in 1998 and now the Presidents Cup.

It looks like a mismatch on paper.

The International team has seven rookies in the Presidents Cup and only one player —Masters champion Adam Scott—in the top 10 in the world. The only American without Presidents Cup or Ryder Cup experience is 20-year-old Jordan Spieth, who is playing so well that he is at No. 21 in the world.

The Americans have never lost on home soil since this event began in 1994. The International team has only won once, in Australia in 1998.

Els and Scott have been the most vocal about needing to make the matches competitive - the past three have been blowouts - and see what it's like to win. Schwartzel has been around Els for a long time, and he noticed a change in his voice when the four-time major champion speaks.

"You can sense in the way he's speaking that he's really tired of being on the losing side," Schwartzel said. "Even out of Adam, too. They've had enough of this."

Even so, there is a sense of pride from Els when he sees the young Springboks.

"We got pretty lucky to get talent like that," Els said. "And we've got some more talent now in our foundation again. They have really laid a great foundation. They're great kids ... well, they're not kids anymore."

Grace was 15 when he spent a week at Fancourt in what remains the tensest Presidents Cup. It ended in a tie, and by rule, one name was pulled from an envelope to decide who won the cup - Woods and Els. They halved the first two holes as darkness fell.

Woods rolled in an 18-foot putt that broke both ways, later calling it the most nervous he had ever been. Els rolled in a 6-foot par putt that looked twice as long to halve the third extra hole. The captains declared it a tie.

As they played the 15th hole Tuesday, a video of that moment was being shown on a big screen.

"I asked Ernie, `Listen, were you nervous over that putt?' He was like, `Yes, I was,'" Grace said.

Oosthuizen needed the funding from Els' foundation to develop as a golfer. He was at Fancourt that weekend, but was home at Mossel Bay watching the final round on television.

Jaguars trading LT Monroe to Ravens

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—The Jacksonville Jaguars have agreed to trade starting left tackle Eugene Monroe to the Baltimore Ravens for undisclosed draft picks.

ESPN first reported the deal Tuesday night. The trade won't be official until Monroe, the eighth overall pick in the 2009 draft, passes a physical in Baltimore.

"It was shocking news," Monroe told The Associated Press. "It came out of nowhere for me. I'm just preparing to make the move. It's a fresh start."

Monroe has started 62 games over five seasons, including the team's past 30 games. He was Jacksonville's best offensive linemen this season, getting beat at times as he tried to pick up the slack for struggling guard Will Rackley.

With Monroe in the final year of his contract and the winless Jaguars clearly in the early phases of a complete rebuilding project, it made sense to trade him now and get something in return.

ESPN reported that the Jaguars would receive multiple third-day picks for Monroe in the 2014 draft.

Jacksonville will move second overall pick Luke Joeckel, who started the first four games at right tackle, to the left side.

Monroe could replace Ravens left tackle Bryant McKinnie, who has struggled this season. If he does break the starting lineup and plays well, it could mean a long-term deal for the former Virginia standout and Plainfield, N.J., native.

"I hope it works out," said Monroe, whose wife is from the Baltimore area. "I've never really been focused on a new contract. I've always just been the same guy, ready to give the best I've got and let everything work itself out."

The Ravens hope Monroe can help an inconsistent line that has had difficulty opening holes for running backs Ray Rice and Bernard Pierce. Baltimore allowed four sacks last Sunday in a 23-20 loss to Buffalo.

McKinnie started for Baltimore in the Super Bowl and was re-signed as a free agent late in the offseason.

Ravens coach John Harbaugh didn't single out McKinnie as the problem behind the team's lackluster running game, but it was apparent that something had to be done after Baltimore set a franchise record for fewest rushing attempts against Buffalo (nine). Baltimore also is 28th in the league in rushing, averaging 64 yards a game.

"I think the whole O-line is disappointing right now," Harbaugh said Monday. "There's no one more disappointed than they are right now. We've got to run block better, we've got to pass block better."

The question now in Jacksonville: who's next? With Monroe gone, the team has just one player on the roster (defensive end Tyson Alualu) from any of the three drafts between 2008 and 2010.

And it's clear the Jaguars aren't even close to being competitive, so why not try to trade guys with value who aren't in general manager Dave Caldwell's long-term plans?

The players could include running back Maurice Jones-Drew, tight end Marcedes Lewis or linebacker Paul Posluszny.

More sponsors, prizes at Chamber golf tourney

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Chamber of Commerce officials, AON employees, and Tan Holdings corporate consultant David M. Sablan, fourth from right, pose for a photo after AON announced it is supporting the Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delta Air Lines' Chris Concepcion, second left, poses with Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan, fourth left, board members Nola Hix and Kevin McCale, and Richard Pierce, center, during a donation turnover ceremony for the Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic this Saturday keeps getting bigger and better as more sponsors and prize donations are being received. Registration is still open and the Chamber will cap participation at 144 players.

Chamber Events Committee co-chairpersons Nola Hix and Kevin McCale reported Takagi & Associates just recently committed $5,000 hole-in-one prize, making a hole-in-one on the west course's No. 3 worth $10,000. Bank of Hawaii is sponsoring a $20,000 prize on No. 7, Triple J Motors is sponsoring a Hyundai Elantra on No. 17, and JoeTen Motors is providing a Yamaha golf cart on No. 13, all hole-in-one prizes.

Closest-to-the pin awards are on all the west course par 3's, as well. Hole No. 3's KP award is cash provided by the Chamber (based on ticket sales, and estimated to be $500), hole No. 7's KP is a package by IT&E, Hole No. 13's KP is a Delta Air Lines roundtrip airline ticket to the U.S., and Hole No. 17's KP is a package from Docomo Pacific. There is also a cash award for a long drive contest on Hole No. 2.

New hole sponsors committing to the tournament are Marianas Pacific Distributors, Bridge Capitol and McDonalds. Drink stations are being provided by Coca-Cola/Powerade, MARPAC and Godfathers.

Tournament officials want to make sure everyone understands a couple of facts about play that have been misunderstood. First, in order to qualify for all four closest-to-the-pin and long drive awards, all players must purchase a $25 ticket at the registration table. Players without their ticket stubs would be denied great shots on the par 3s.

Also, the categories of play are men's double peoria net; women's double peoria ner; and low gross. Men and women are eligible for the low gross bracket. Men will play from the white tees and women will play from the red tees. Man/woman teams will only qualify for the double peoria awards in the men's bracket, but are still eligible in the low gross bracket.

All proceeds from this year's 6th Annual SCC/Steven Brownstein Golf Classic will go towards the Chamber's annual college scholarship awards. SCC gave $12,000 this past June to Saipan high-school seniors. ***(PR)***

Jordan: In his prime, he could beat LeBron, others

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—NBA legend Michael Jordan believes he could beat LeBron James in a one-on-one basketball game when he was in his prime.

He's not sure about Kobe Bryant.

In a video promoting the NBA 2K14 video game that was released Tuesday, Jordan said there's a long list of players he would've liked to have played one-on-one - Jerry West, Elgin Baylor, Julius Erving, Carmelo Anthony, Dwyane Wade, Bryant and James, who dons the cover of this year's game.

"I don't think I would lose," Jordan said in the video, before smiling and adding, "Other than to Kobe Bryant because he steals all of my moves."

Responded James: "MJ said that?"

James was told of Jordan's comments after the Miami Heat completed their first training camp practice in the Bahamas on Tuesday, and said that the buzz would serve as good promotion for the game.

"Absolutely, I thought about the matchup," James said. "But no one would ever see it. It's not going to happen. But it's good for people to talk about."

Jordan was listed as 6-foot-6 and 213 pounds during his prime. He averaged 30.1 points, 6.2 rebounds and 5.3 assists per game during his 15 seasons in the NBA.

Jordan, a six-time NBA champion and considered by many the greatest basketball player ever, has had a sponsorship deal with 2K Sports since 2011, when he first appeared on the cover of the popular game. James, 6-8, 250 pounds, has averaged 25.1 points, 6.6 rebounds and 6 assists during his first 10 seasons in the league.

The 50-year-old Jordan, who was a five-time league MVP and is the majority owner of the Charlotte Bobcats, also shared the cover in 2012 with Magic Johnson and Larry Bird.

This year will be the first time on the cover for James, a four-time league MVP who has led the Heat to back-to-back NBA championships.

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma City, Thunder point guard Russell Westbrook will miss the first 4-6 weeks of the NBA season after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his right knee Tuesday.

General Manager Sam Presti said the three-time All-Star had knee swelling that would not subside, and the procedure was intended to solve the problem.

DODGERS

From Page 28

in the next two innings, made it to the board anew at the top of the sixth. T.J. Dela Cruz had a sacrifice fly, while the other run came off a fielder's choice to keep the Giants in the game.

However, the Dodgers got one run back with Jonah Flores reaching home off catcher K.J. De Leon Guerrero's error and they sealed the win one inning early, as the Giants's first three batters were booted out. L.J. Sebaklim and Ray Borja flied out, while Franklin Lizama was beaten to first on a rundown play.

Camacho led the Dodgers with his 2-for-3 performance at bat, three RBIs and one run, while Jhace Palacios went 3-for-5 and added one RBI and two runs. Jesse Brel hit 2-for-4 for the Giants and tallied two runs and a double.

Tigers 4, Cardinals 3

Also improving to a 4-7 record were the Tigers, who nipped the Cardinals in last Monday's game.

The Tigers stole the victory after scoring two runs off the Cardinals miscues at the bottom of the seventh inning.

The last inning started with Cardinals pitcher Aurel Mendiola walking Jared Ayuyu, who was later tagged out to second base. Justin Santos was next at bat, singled and made it all the way home off Davie Matagolai's error at third base after fourth batter Keene Deleon Guerrero let go a wild pitch. Third baseman and third batter Jose Lizama also reached off a Cardinals' booboo, as he ran home and catcher Jordan Taitano fumbled.

The winning run was Lizama's second, as he stole home earlier at the bottom of the third inning, while Ricardo Dela Cruz notched the second run, also off a stolen home, in the fourth inning. Vincent Taman scored the first run for the Cardinals off a passed ball and the team went on to take the lead at the top of the fifth inning with Mendiola reaching home off another passed ball and Matagolai gaining the third run courtesy of the Tigers' error.

Neither team managed to score in the sixth inning, as the Cardinals had runners stranded on first and second and the Tigers' Cedric Ada was left at third after Bret Halstead flied out. Then at the top of the seventh, the Cardinals lost another opportunity to gain more cushion against the Tigers when Matagolai was stranded at third after Mendiola was caught stealing second for the third out.

LADDER

From Page 28

teammates, as Proa recorded 27 points to grab the lead at halftime, 34-43. KB Market was held to 10 points with only Devero making more than one field goal for his team in the second quarter.

The lead changed anew in the third, as Esdrelon showed up at the start of the second half, hit back-to-back triples, and scored 10 points to help out Devero. However, Proa still had the last say, as Barcinas and company burned the hoops, while KB Market was limited to four field goals and Devero went scoreless in the important frame.

In the second game, Ladder Beach gained momentum late in the third canto and hung tough in the fourth to beat Toka Degree.

Ladder Beach faced a 37-42 deficit at halftime, but grabbed the upper hand entering the final canto, 74-63, as Wowie Abuel ended the third with back-to-back triples and led his team's 10-2 windup in the last two minutes of that period.

Toka Degree tried to mount a comeback in the fourth, opting to go for a press midway in the final frame. However, Ladder Beach used their quickness to elude Toka Degree defenders and escape with uncontested inside baskets.

The guards did the trick for Ladder Beach, as Abuel finished with 22 points, Kevin De Leon added 18, and Dennis Vinas contributed 16. Six-foot-nine center Kevin McCain played decoy and drew the defense of Toka Degree's big men, allowing Rolly Paraiso to get a couple of baskets off backdoor plays. Both McCain and Paraiso scored in twin digits with 17 and 11 markers, respectively.

Jawn Joyner paced Toga Degree with his 17 points, but was held to one field goal in the fourth canto. Tony Diaz also struggled in the fourth, failing to make a single basket after finishing the third with 14 markers. Toga Degree was gassed out in the latter part of the third and was a bit disorganized on offense in the fourth. It concentrated too much on pushing off McCain in the paint, forgetting to rotate back on defense against Ladder Beach guards, who either pulled up for long jumpers or cut through the lane.

First Game

AXE Proa 89 – Pagarao 24, Villacrusus 15, Lizama 12, Barcinas 10, Libuw 9, Sablan 7, Rosario 3, Babauta 2, Mendiola 2.

KB Market 79 – Galarse 21, Devero 14, Barbo 14, Esdrelon 10, De Dios 7, Manalo 2, David 2, Guiab 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-24, 43-34, 62-65, 89-79.

Second Game

Ladder Beach 102 – Abuel 22, De Leon 18, McCain 17, Vinas 16, Mangali 11, Paraiso 11, Sison 3, Montano 2.

Toka Degree 88 – J. Joyner 17, Camacho 15, T. Diaz 14, Mendiola 11, E. Diaz 11, Augenbaugh 7, Deleon Guerrero 4, Reyes 3, Peters 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-20, 37-42, 74-63, 102-88.

ISLAND

From Page 28

the team's debut win. Jun Tabora scored 18 points, Alex Standish added 16, and John Santos and Cesar Bisana chipped in 14 and 13, respectively. Devero was the lone workhorse for Island Manpower, sizzling for 30 points.

With the rout, Island Floral joined the Bandits in the winner's column in Pool B, which also has I Love Saipan (0-1) and San Antonio, C&J Cherries, Maplas, and Natural Mystic, which have yet to play their first game in the second season of the league.

Docomo 60, Saipan Ice 52

In Pool A, Docomo rallied past Saipan Ice to also win its debut.

Docomo trailed at the break, but held Saipan Ice to 20 points in the entire second half to eke out the 8-point win.

Still down by a hair at the end of the third canto, 40-41, Juan Camacho provided the needed baskets for Docomo, nailing 8 of his 17 points in the fourth quarter. His teammates also stepped up, as Rolly Paraiso, Jimmy Tudela, and three others combined for the remaining 12 points of Docomo in the final canto.

Saipan Ice made only 11 points after a lackluster third quarter where it logged only 9 markers to lose a twin-digit advantage. Treat Kaipat and Derrick Rangamar scored in streaks for Saipan Ice in the first half to take the double-digit lead, 32-22, but both struggled in the second half, while Docomo had an even point distribution to recover in the final half.

First Game

Docomo Pacific 60 – Camacho 17, Paraiso 10, Villacrusis 10, Sanciangco 8, Ji. Tudela 7, Jo. Tudela 2, Gomez 2, Sablan 1.

Saipan Ice 52 – Cayading 16, Rangamar 10, Kaipat 9, Villanueva 5, Olopai 3, Serrano 3, Camacho 2, Rivera 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-14, 22-32, 40-41, 60-52.

Second Game

Island Floral 85 – Tabora 18, Standish 16, Santos 14, Bisana 13, Teregeyo 8, Tobias 4, Kaipat 4.

Island Manpower 62 – Devero 30, Capuyon 8, Esteves 6, Rio 5, Carpio 4, Esconde 4, Acosta 2, Montano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-7, 52-19, 67-39, 85-62.

SDA MTB and Road Bike Race

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Bikers wait for the start of the Seventh Day Adventist MTB and Road Bike Race last Sunday.

Erico Castro pulls away from a small group cruising Beach Road.

Nap Dizon leads a peloton along the Airport Road.

Ken Pierson and Gary Bandoja head up to Papago.

Three bikers pedal along Capital Hill.

A female biker waves to the photographer.

Jerome Diyco heads out of the trail .

A rider stands up to negotiate an uphill road.

A big group of bikers cruises along Airport Road.

Russ Quinn smiles as he soldiers on.

Pirates beat Reds 6-2 in NL wild-card game

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Nicklaus holds court prior to Presidents Cup

PAGE 25

Dodgers stun Giants, 14-7

The Dodgers' Brian Camacho pitches against the Padres while his teammates get ready on defense during their game in the Triple A league last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Dodgers pulled off an upset over the Giants, 14-7, during last Tuesday's game in the 2nd Annual DYS/Triple A Youth Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

An 8-run bottom of the fifth inning catapulted the Dodgers to victory—their fourth in 11 games—while the Giants dropped to a 6-4 mark.

Before the Dodgers' uprising the game was tied, 5-5, after four and a half innings. Then at the bottom fifth, the Dodgers countered with four earned runs, one stolen home, and three runs off the Giants miscues. Relief pitcher Nathan Camacho collected two RBIs and went 2-for-2 in that inning alone. All the Dodgers players on the batting line-up stepped on the plate and seven of the nine batters reached home with Jonathan Cabrera even scoring twice, giving the team a 13-5 advantage.

The Giants, who gained two runs in the first and three in the fourth before going on a slump

See DODGERS on Page 26

Ladder Beach, AXE Proa win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four more teams debuted in the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Open Division Basketball League with Ladder Beach and AXE Proa downing Toka Degree and KB Market last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

AXE Proa played in the curtain-raiser and defeated KB Market, 89-79, while Ladder Beach triumphed over Toka Degree in the second match, 102-88, to join opening day winner Kanoa Resort, which beat the Hoopaholics last Sunday, 71-70.

The first game was a seesaw battle with AXE Proa saving enough ammunition in the end to outgun KB Market. AXE Pro scored 27 points against only 14 from KB Market in the fourth quarter to turn a 62-65 deficit to the 10-point win. Dan Barcinas led AXE Proa in the final canto, dropping 8 of his 14 markers in that period, while Jack Lizama, Gino Libuw, and Joe Villacrusis contributed two field goals apiece.

New AXE Proa recruit Lerio Pagarao had only 2 points in the fourth quarter, but his early baskets kept his squad in the match and he went on to finish with a game-high 24 points. Pagarao scored AXE Proa's last 10 points in the third canto, as he traded baskets with Ivan Devero, who drilled 8 of KB Market's last 10 markers in that frame.

Earlier in the first canto, it was KB Market's Leo Galarse versus Villacrus with the former firing 7 points to lift his team to a 24-16 lead. VIllacrusis nailed AXE Proa's first 8 points in the opening frame. Pagarao took over in the second period, logging 10 points and drawing enough help from his

See LADDER on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ladder Beach's Ken McCain is sandwiched by Toka Degree's Charlie Peters, left, and Derrick Aughenbaugh during the third quarter of their game in the Open division of the UFO caging last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Island Floral blows out foe

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Island Floral demolished Island Manpower, 85-62, in the second game in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

A 25-7 scoring in the first quarter set up Island Floral's lopsided victory and impressive debut in the 16-team field league. Island Floral got at least three field goals from four different players in the opening 10 minutes of the match to take the commanding 18-point lead.

Island Manpower was lost at the get-go with only Ivan Devero and Chris Esteves scoring in the first quarter and although the team picked up its offense a bit in the second period, still Island Floral more than doubled-up the former by halftime. Island Floral led by 33 big points at the break, 52-19, as it continued to draw points from every player it field in the game.

In the end, four Island Floral players finished in twin digits in

See ISLAND on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Island Floral's John Santos goes for an up and under move against Island Manpower defenders during the third quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Monday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.